

IHE INDEP

27 MARCH 1997

WEATHER: Cloudy, some rain and sunshine

(IR45p) 40p

PLAY POLITICAL STRIP POKER PAGES 5-8



IN THE TABLOID: **6 PAGES OF FILMS** A ROMEO & JULIET | EDUCATION+ O DIE FOR?

INSIDE THE TABLOID 20-PAGE PULL-OUT

Giving up! Pink faces all round

I'll work with Labour, says Major's London organiser

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

Steven Norris, the former minister of transport and chief election strategist in London for the Tories, has said that he is prepared to work with a Labour administration under Tony

Mr Norris, who described Tony Blair as "a nice chap" if a little too "Draconian", said: "If the present polls continue through to the election - and I am fighting to stop them - then Britain will wake up to a Labour

With the advent of the next government it is important to remember that you have to offer the party in power - Conservative, as I hope, or Labour - new solutions," he said in an exclusive interview with The Inde-

Despite being famed for putting down his Labour peers at the despatch box, Mr Norris is quick to praise his opposite numbers. I may disagree with Andrew Smith or Clare Short or friends like Kenh Hill, Lubour MP for Streatham who sits on the transport select committee, on certain issues that is polities – it does not go any fur-

"I think on many social issues Labour has let people down. If there was a silver lining to a Labour government's cloud it would have been the lifting of the ban on gays in the military. However what happens with a

bit of pressure - they retreat." Mr Norris, who is leaving the Commons after the election, said: I might disagree with Andrew Smith like Labour front bench spokesman on careful to say he is not sup-

Labour's health spending pledge: Election countdown, pages 5, 6, 7 & (sorry) 8 Race and the election, page 21

fledged privatisation or public private partnerships are the best way to improve the Tube. But I want what's best for the passenger and I will work for

He also admitted that bus

∠ It is difficult to justify intellectually what new Labour really stands for 9

deregulation, championed by the Conservatives, has its weaknesses". The sheet volume of competition has let in too many cowboys," he

"Labour are in a more comfortable territory in seeking to smooth the edges of the 1986 act whereas many of my right-wing friends would be difficult to be persuaded of any curbs on bus operators."

The former minister was transport] on whether fully- porting the Labour party. director.

"Vote for the social chapter, the minimum wage, the union bosses - that is New Labour. The electorate have to remember what this is really is about." he

The problem for New Labour is that it is very difficult to justify intellectually what they really stand for," he added. The MP for Epping Forest is no stranger to controversy. Only last week he got into hot water he said that protesters were

right to oppose the Newbury bypass, adding for good measure that he opposed the chosen He is also considered the most able Commons performer never to have made it to the cabinet table and is well-liked and

respected by members of all political parties.

Although "left of the main-stream Conservative party on many social issues", Mr Norris remains a committed rightwinger on economics and an political admirer of Michael Portillo, the Secretary of State for Defence.

His own career stalled when it was revealed that he had wooed five mistresses as well as

But he is credited by many observers for moving the department of transport from staunch support for road buildnow adopted by all the political parties.

Mr Norris will enter the private sector after this election as the head of the Road Haulage Association - the trade body for lorry fleet owners. His ability also drew a bus company to offer him a £10,000 to work as a non-executive



Tim Smith does the decent thing

Christian Wolmar Westminster Correspondent

One festering boil in the Tory party was lanced vesterday with the resignation of Tim Smith as Conservative candidate for Beaconsfield, but another remained as Neil Hamilton steadfastly refused to follow suit.

Mr Smith, who has admitted receiving up to £25,000 in cash from Harrods' owner Mohamed Al Fayed for asking Parliamentary questions, stood on the doorstep of the home of the chairman of his Conservative association and announced he was retiring from politics.

He blamed the leak of his evidence to the cash-for-auestions inquiry, being held by Sir Gordon Downey, It "has made my course of action inevitable. with its complete disregard for both Parliamentary privilege and natural justice", he said. However, he gave no explanation about his relationship with Mr Al Fayed and made no apology.

Mr Smith said his actions

were only ever prompted by "my best judgement of where the interests of the country and my constituents lav.

While many prominent Beaconsfield Tories had stood by Mr. Smith, support appeared to be prompted his departure.

The former constituency vice-chairwoman, Caroline Strafford, said: "Beaconstield is: the third safest Conservative seat in the country and the 30,000 or more Conservative electors who last voted for Tim-Smith have to be really confident that they have the best Member of Parliament," She

"disappointed" with Mr Smith. Mr Hamilton, however, shows no sign of bowing to the pressure. His constituency chairman, Alan Barnes, said of Mr Smith's departure: "The two cases are totally different. Mr Smith admitted from the beginning he had accepted money. Neil Hamilton has consistently denied accepting cash

for questions." However, evidence to the Downey inquiry shows that Mr Hamilton accepted "secret commissions", worth £10,000. from lobbyist lan Greer, and that he now accepts he lied to Michael Heseltine about having "financial relationship" with

John Major refused to make any comment about Mr Smith's departure but Conservative Central Office stood by him: Obviously we are sad to see him go. I think he has acted with good grace and dignity.

It is possible that the party put him under pressure to go in order to help detuse the sleaze issue. Mr Smith spoke to Central Office vesterday because he betieved the "vendetta" against him was damaging to the party.

According to Central Office sources, the Prime Minister "sympathises" with Mr Smith and only two weeks ago he was at a dinner at 10 Downing Street hosted by Mr Major for a group of Saudi Arabians.

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, said: "All those MPs who have admitted taking eash for questions and are guilty of services rendered without declaring them are not fit to be Parliamentary candidates ... and John Major should show leadership for once in asking all said she felt local people were — of them to stand down."

IRA bombs its way into the election

As the IRA presses the firingbuttons of bombs in the north of England, Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness press the flesh, seeking election in West Belfast and Mid-Ulster.

There is an election on but in republican terms there is also a it, there will be more incidents in both England and Northern Ireland, if only to send the message that it remains dangerous. Yesterday's two early-morn-

ing hombs near Wilmslow railway station injured no one, but they were clearly intended to signal that the IRA has not gone away, and that people may be killed in the course of this elec-

In the old days, incidents like ficun fantasy, to have the cumu-

Nazi art find

QUICKLY

Crucial new information about art works seized and sold by the Nazis because they were "de-

generate" has been found in a

routine bequest of German

a London art dealer. Page 3

day that they have the manag-



lative effect of driving the British out of Ireland. Today, the sights have been lowered considerably, for few if any republicans helieve they are heading for vic-tory. Instead, the bombs are seen as positioning mechanisms. aimed at placing the republican movement in the strongest and most advantageous position for a new negotiation with the next

lieve they should have by now adopted an unarmed strategy, but the prevailing view among IRA leaders differs from this. Those running the show believe in using a combination of military and political activity; hence the blend

of ballot-box and bomb. Those who want to move as quickly as possible to another ceasefire are acquiescing in this approach. They may disagree with it, but they consider themselves bound by the republican version of collective cabinet responsibility. The alternative is a public split.

Yet at a deeper level, the two tendencies agree on one fundamental - for both believe it will all end, sooner or later, not in victory but at a conference table. The disagreement is not on

how and when, and on how to secure the best negotiating position.
The next British government will, most likely on its first day in office, receive advances from the republicans holding out the prospect of a renewed ceasefire n exchange for guaranteed and

speedy entry into talks. Sinn Fein will say there should be no lengthy "decontamination" period and no preconditions about advance decommissioning of weapoury. It will also ask for a time-frame for negotiations, together with movement on ancillary but important issues such as prisoners.

Most republicans assume that another ceasefire will probably come into being sometime within the next 12 months, after much arguing around these points. But there will be many hurdles. A new government with a slender majority, whether Labour or Tory, may be anxious. to court Unionist MPs, who will certainly campaign strongly against the idea of doing business with republicans. Then there is the loyalist marching season; another disastrous summer could sour the atmosphere

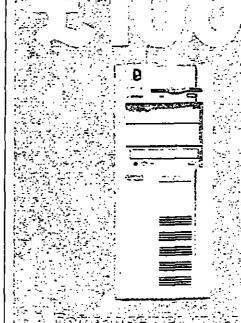
All that will come after the election, but for the moment things are not going entirely to the republican plan, since if the IRA had its way the politico-violent mix would contain much more violence than at present. Its problem has been that the security forces in both Britain and Belfast have in the past year had an unprecedentedly high success rate in foiling IRA op-

erations and arresting important

members of the organisation. Will vesterday's attacks renresent a one-off? Not if the IRA can help it. If there are no more attacks it will be due to the efforts of the security forces, for the IRA will be trying hard to

put itself in the forefront of this election campaign. On the electoral from, things ook reasonably promising for the republicans. Sinn Fein holds no seats at the moment, but Messrs Adams and McGuinness are favourites to win West Belfast and Mid-Ulster, They are trying hard to win seats while the IRA tries hard to bomb Britain, in order to give the next government the unpublicans continue to wield too much political and paramilitary

Lotin Wheeler



The new Compaq ProSignia 200 server range starts at an incredible £995 plus VAT. This is the first time that a Compaq server has ever been available for less than £1000. Yet, it is still a server range with all the performance and reliability

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Banking system goes cashless for Easter

have gone into the red simply

John Willcock

books and catalogues left to the If you are expecting your paycheque to appear in your bank Victoria and Albert Museum by account today, be warned - you may suffer a cashless Easter weekend. The automated pay-Middlesbrough blocked ments system which connects companies to banks broke down Middleshrough learned vesteron Tuesday, leaving an "uner of the month, the player of the month, but not the legal arknown number of payments that did not get through. Banks gament to win the day_An FA were told of the breakdown appeals board threw out their around midnight on Tuesday protest against the three-point penalty imposed after they and spent yesterday alerting

The computer staff who run

the payments system were scratching their heads yesterday. with no clear idea of what caused the network to seize up or how many customers will be barred from their cash.

The fear engulfing highstreet banks is that solvent customers will use their cashpoint cards today to prepare for the Bank Holiday weekend, only to be given the electronic equivalent of the bum's rush: "Refer Even worse, branch man-

because of the computer glitch. Rightly fearful of customer fury, the banks have instructed branch managers that some cheques which should be bounced today should remain firmly desk-bound until next Tuesday. Customers with wages due should be able to draw money provided they take along their payslip and identification

to their local branch. The problem occurred in the BACS payments system, an agers may mistakenly bounce electronic clearing house for all shut it off, and then run it an cheques on accounts which UK banks run by the Associators seven hours last night." electronic clearing house for all

tion for Payment Clearing Services. A spokesman said: "As soon as we saw that there would be a problem with people's wages and salaries we decided to come clean and warn people. We'll bear any charges if people go overdrawn because of it. lis our problem. The problem affected an un-

known number of companies connected to BACS. The system began to run at a slow speed, and (payment) messages weren't getting through. So we shut it off, and then ran it an ex-

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Council issues warning over convicted paedophile

More than 8.000 parents have been warned by their local council to protect their children from a "very dangerous" convicted paedophile who has moved into an area of south-east London

The case comes just days after legislation forcing paedophiles and other sex offenders to register their addresses and any change of name to police became law. The law, which will not be enacted until after the election, gives police the discretion to pass on information about sex offenders to

other organisations in the community, such as councils. As a result of legal advice, the letter from Lewisham council does not name the 44-year-old man or give his address. But it gives a clear description of him and publishes a hotline number which parents can call if they are worried.

Poor advice for Welsh pupils

Welsh school leavers are outclassed by their English counterparts, according to a Welsh Affairs Select Committee report published

yesterday. It found that competition between Wales' Training and Education Councils, local education authorities and the Further Education Funding Council was unhelpful to students planning their working life. Conflicting advice by the careers service added to the confusion and research into the role of advisers was identified in the report as a priority, it concluded.

The remoteness of further education colleges governors was an-

other stumbling block. **Tony Heath**

First solicitors join silks

Two practising solicitors were included for the first time in the new Queen's Counsel announced yesterday, breaking the stranglehold of barristers on the appointments as "silks". The two are Arthur Marriott. 53, a partner at Wilmer Cutler and Pickering and a specialist in commercial arbitration, and Dr Lawrence Collins, 55, a partner at Herbert Smith and a specialist in commercial and intellectual property law.

Famous show their spirituality



Channel 5 yesterday dished up its religious desserts – and Songs of Praise it ain't. My Sunday, a weekly morning slot which joins celebrities in their homes, claims to unmask the spiritual side of the rich and famous, Included in the line-up are some surprising figures such as Max Clifford, the king of public relations, and Toyah Wilcox (pictured), the "80s Princess of Punk". Another series, Alpha

Zone, a contemporary Christian music magazine programme, presents a "scene" never before shown on British television and "take the vibe beyond the parameters of a Christian audience".

73 years for tycoon kidnap gang A gang who kidnapped a wealthy shipping tycoon and held him

prisoner for nine days in a cupboard to demand a £5m ransom were yesterday jailed for a total of 73 years at the Old

Their "evil and dangerous" Greek ringleader, Constantine Korkolis, 40, was sentenced to 25 years by Judge Simon Goldstein

after a jury returned guilty verdicts on four defendants. Two Frenchmen, Jean-Marc Mereu, 37, and Djemel Moussaoui, 34, and a second Greek Thanassis Zografos. 25, were each sentenced to 16 years imprisonment.

All four had denied kidnapping and falsely imprisoning George Fraghistas, 43, in London last year.

Stately setting for 'Emmerdale'

A new village for the television soap *Emmerdale* is to be built on a famous country estate. Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television yesterday won approval to build the village film set in the grounds of Harewood House, near Leeds, home of Lord Harewood, a cousin of the Queen.

The new set will be used to film outdoor scenes of the programme. The television company has agreed to contribute £50,000 a year to a conservation fund for the estate.

Remains aid modern human theory

Human remains between 270,000 and 300,000 years old found in Kenya add weight to theories that our ancestors looked and acted like modern humans much sooner than anthropologists had

thought, according to research published today. An international team say that an ancient skull with all its top teeth, and a thigh bone found near Lake Turkana were both from an almost modern human.

"These hominids might represent the oldest near-modern human specimens from anywhere in the world," the team writes in

the science journal Nature. It has previously been thought that modern humans, Homo Sapiens Sapiens, emerged about 40,000 years ago. Archaic Homo Sapiens were believed to have emerged 90,000 years ago. Charles Arthur

Zoran Tancic

It was announced in the High Court yesterday that businessman Zoran Tancic had accepted damages for libel from The Independent over allegations that money he had donated to the

Conservative Party was "tainted". His solicitor, Mr Andrew Stephenson, told the Court that Mr Tancic, who was born in Belgrade, had no links with Radovan Karadzic or the Bosnian Serb Leadership as had been made clear in an earlier article published in The Independent and that it was wrong to condemn Mr Tancic for his association with a Russian said to have been at the centre of a corruption scandal, but against whom no charges had ever been brought.

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BACK ISSUES Back review of the independent are available from Historic Newspapers, telephone 01998 840370.



WALKING THE BOARDS: The Hollywood actress Kathleen Turner in London yesterday to faunch the Chichester Theatre Festival where she will make her first appearance on a British stage. The star of Body Heat and War of the Roses, who can command £500,000 per film, will work for just £500-a-week in Somerset Maugham's Our Betters (Photograph: Tony Buckingham)

Final blow as King's Cross victim is left with huge bill

severely burnt that he can no longer play the guitar and keyboards, and his voice is too damaged to

sing. He is laughed at wherever he goes. But for Kwasi Afari Minta, the Ghanaian musician who was caught in the King's Cross fire, the suffering does not end. On top of everything, he learnt yesterday that he now faces a legal bill approaching £150,000.

Mr Minta, the most severely injured survivor of the disaster a decade ago, was awarded just £110,427 damages by a High Court judge after an eight-day hearing. Since he turned down the £350,000 settlement offered by London Underground because it was "simply not enough", he must now pay the company's lawyers fees. Speaking after the ruling by Mr Justice Toulson, Mr Minta, 43, who had submitted a claim for £1 m plus dam-

Mackay rebukes

niggers judge

A judge who used the expression work like niggers" was yesterday formally rebuked by the Lord

Chancellor, Lord Mackay, for giving

He told Judge William Crawford

QC, who said in a case "I know many people ... who work like niggers",

offence to ethnic minorities.

that such remarks did "wholly

perception of justice and the

reputation of the judiciary."

disproportionate damage to the

For Judge Crawford, 60, who is

married with three children, it was a

five years ago for kissing a court

usher during an incident in his

sexual harassment, was

unacceptable.

second offence. He was reprimanded

chambers at Newcastle Crown Court.

Lord Mackay reminded him that he

had sent a letter to all full-time judges

in 1994 making clear that behaviour

causing offence, particularly on racial

or religious grounds, or amounting to

Judge Crawford has apologised for the remark, saying it was a "regrettable slip" not intended to

offend. "I trust you now recognise,"

Lord Mackay told him, "that use of

offence and did, in fact, give offence

such expressions is likely to give

ages, said: "I am very disappointed. I have come out of this with nothing after all the suffering."

port, said they had already made payments of £100,500 to Mr Minta and had tried to settle the action.

"Our last settlement offer of £355,000 was deemed so sufficient by the Legal Aid Board that, because Mr Minta did not accept it, they withdrew legal aid a few days before the case was due to come to court, which meant he had no legal representation at court."

During the hearing earlier this month, Mr Minta, who lives with in Putney, south-west London, and is married with a five-year-old autistic son, admitted he was an illegal immigrant who should not have been in Britain at the time of the tragedy. He was given only a one-month visitor's visa when he arrived in the UK in 1985. He told Mr Justice Toulson that when he arrived he had not realised he needed a visa.

The giant fireball which exploded at King's Cross is November 1987 killed 31 people. A total of £4.5m has been paid out to 110 people making Patricia Dryden, head of litigation for London Trans- injury and property damages. Clare Garne

Steffi cleared as court orders

after prosecutors dropped their investigation into her tax

The amount the German tennis star will give was not disclosed in the one-line statement issued by court officials in the southern city of Mannheim vesterday. The deal was reached with her agreement and is a technique commonly used in Germany when officials feel a case does not ment a lengthy

Graf's father. Peter. was convicted in January of evading millions of Marks in taxes on his daughter's winnings and sentenced to nearly four

The judge recommended dropping the investigation into Steffi, saying he believed her father bore responsibility. sacked for this. Merely being rebuked She has always claimed she Patricia Wynn Davies and | had entrusted financial mat-Clare Gamer | ters to her father.

charity gift Steffi Graf has been ordered to make a donation to charity

years in prison.

Parents pray for Cambodia hostage

Judge Crawford: Claimed that his

remark was a 'regrettable slip'

to members of the ethnic minorities."

However, Mohan Singh, the 43-

initial complaint after hearing the

furious. "He should have been

comment in the public gallery, was

is no fitting punishment for what he

ear-old social worker who made the

The parents of Christopher Howes, the British mines clearance expert who was seized by Khmer Rouge bandits a year ago, attended a midday service at their parish church yesterday to mark the first anniversary of their son's disappearance.

Rov Howes, 69, a retired businessman, and his wife, Betty, 70, lit a candle in their home in Backwell, near Bristol, at 7pm last night, and prayed for the 37-yearold Falklands veteran, who was captured as he led a mine-clearance operation in northern Cambodia. They requested that the nation should do the same.

"We are hoping that thousands of others will join us and pray for Chris," said Mr Howes. "If enough people are thinking of him and he is still alive perhaps the message will somehow find its way around to him."

hard evidence that Mr Howes or his interpreter are alive.

A Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday: "Unfortunately there is nothing new ... There has been no proof of life for some considerable time ... We are receiving information from a range of sources, including Metropolitan officers on the ground and we have the support of two Cambodian deputy prime ministers."

There have been a number of conflicting reports about Mr Howes. Earlier this month, Hun Sen, Cambodie's joint prime minister, quoted military intelligence sources claiming Mr Howes had been killed. But last November, Cambodia's army commanders reported that the hostage would be freed "within days" by defectors.

Mr Howes is thought to have declined an invitation by the Khmer Rouge to go free to collect a ransom they had demanded, preferring instead to remain with his 28 Since Mr Howes' disappearance there has been no colleagues. As a result, all 28 were released while Mr Howes and the interpreter were held. Clare Garner

ENVIRONMENT

Wheely bins steer towards more waste, says survey

Big wheely bins encourage people to throw away more waste and recycle less, research by the Government's Environment Agency

The agency used three consultancies and three universities to probe the garbage from 1,400 homes up and down the country. hand-sorting their rubbish to study its detailed composition. The preliminary results were released yesterday. The researchers found that households with wheely bins produced, on average, 978kg of waste a year, while those using plastic bin bags or traditional

waste a year, while those using plastic bin bags of traditional dustbins produced 645kg.

"If you give people a big enough bin you discourage them from recycling and encourage them to put in bulky items." said Terry Coleman, the agency's waste strategy manager. More and more homes are being issued with the wheely bins because they make collection quicker and more convenient for the binmen – who are increasingly contract rather than council staff. Some 18 per cent of the rubbish by weight consists of packaging materials like glass, cardboard and plastic. The nation's households throw away 3.2 million tonnes of waste rackaging a year.

Nicholas Schoon million tonnes of waste packaging a year.

MOTORING

The road-rage children

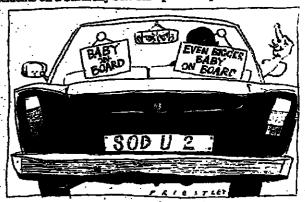
Parents are raising a generation of road-ragers by setting a bad example in front of their children, a survey claimed yesterday, Nearly three-quarters of children said their parents get angry while driving and more than half said mothers and fathers shout and swear at other motorists. A psychologist, Don MacLeod, said: "Parents are effectively creating a new generation of aggressive drivers because of their own bad habits."

drivers because of their own bad naons.

The Antoglass survey of youngsters aged 10-16 found that:
nearly two in three fathers (62 per cent) get angry while driving
and more than half (52 per cent) shout and swear; 55 per cent of
mothers get angry and 34 per cent swear; fathers are three times
more likely to speed than mothers.

The research also showed drivers were most likely to have
condends on a Sefunday between days and form

accidents on a Saturday between 4pm and 6pm.



Breakthrough for diabetics

A revolutionary way of taking medicines could allow diabetics to throw away their needles, scientists disclosed yesterday. The method involves swallowing plastic "microspheres" - less

than 10,000th of a millimetre across - containing minute droplets of the drugs, including DNA and insulin.

The biologically degradable capsules stick to the walls of the

small intestine and pass through them, between the cells, to deliver the medicine into the bloodstream.

Scientists in the United States have been testing the technique

on rats, with encouraging results. They wrote in the journal Nature that if the system can be transferred to humans it could allow delicate drugs normally damaged by the digestive system to be passed quickly from the mouth to the blood circulation.

EDUCATION

Bullies should be beaten

Most adults believe school bullies should suffer corporal punishment, according to a survey of school safety.

More than half the adults questioned (55 per cent) said they thought corporal punishment should be brought back for children who preyed on others — while 74 per cent said bullies should be expelled; 53 per cent believed the police should be called in to deal with cases of bullying.

The findings of the poll, in which NOP interviewed 1,000 adults for the magazine came after it emerged that the schooleid killer

for She ungazine; come after it emerged that the schoolgirl killer Sharon Carr had also knifed a 13-year-old in her school toilets, and just over a year after the Dunblane massacre. In the wake of this, the poll found almost half wanted closed-circuit television to be installed in schools.

Some eight out of 10 lekt schools were less safe than they used to be, with a similar number believing police should regularly advise on security. Almost 90 per cent felt teachers were inadequately prepared to cope with any threats.

SCIENCE

Probe heads for Saturn moon

Europe and the United States aim to explore the largest moon on Saturn using a probe which will take off in October. The probe, named Huygens, will land on Titan in 2004 after a seven-year journey, and send back information about the moon's physical and chemical composition.

Named after the Dutch astronomer who discovered Titan in 1655, Huygens was built by a team of 13 European companies led by Aerospatiale of France, together with Nasa. It weighs 300kg and will be launched aboard a US Titan IV Centaur rocket. It will then use the "slingshot" effect of the gravity of Earth, then Venus and finally Jupiter to approach Saturn before making a parachute landing on Titan, whose chemistry and geology appears to have similarities to those of the Earth in its primitive stage.

Huygens will also carry thousands of messages sent in by Internet users, ranging from calls for galactic peace to invitations to share a plate of pasta. **Charles Arthur**





NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

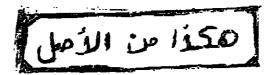
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Reviled art that made the Nazis rich

Revealed for the first time: the complete account of masterpieces plundered during the Hitler era

David Lister Arts News Editor

Crucial new information about art works seized and sold by the Nazis because they were "degenerate" has been found in a routine hequest of German books and catalogues left to the Victoria and Albert Museum by a London art dealer.

The discovery is being hailed by experts in Germany as the first complete record of Hitler's raiding of museums and galleries for paintings and sculptures the Nazis deemed subversive and obscene. Many were simply modernist or abstract pictures. Others were by Jew-

The Independent is the only newspaper to have seen the typescripts now being examined by V&A specialists. They contain lists of "degenerate" artists, including Van Gogh, the titles of their confiscated works and prices they were sold for often to Swiss art dealers.

But not always. Three entries list Van Gogh paintings and in the column for the buyer's name, it says simply "Reichsm. Goering", the official title of Hermann Goering, Hinler's lieu-tenant and the head of the Luftwaffe. He is listed as having paid 150,000 Reichsmarks for one Van Gogh to a Berlin gallery, though there is no evidence that the money was ever received. One of these works is Dr Gachet, one of a series of paintings by Van Gogh with the

Goering, who clearly did not mind owning degenerate works by Old Masters, is also down as having bought an oil painting by Gaugum, Reiter Am Strand.
A Van Gogb self-portrait

was sold for 175,000 Swiss francs to a Swiss art dealer, andfour prints by Lovis Corinth were sold to a Swiss art dealer



Looted: Hermann Goering (left) with Van Gogn's 'Portrait of Dr Gachet' and (top to bottom right) Lovis Corinth's 'Still life with flowers'. Edouard Munch's 'Bergierde' and George Grosz's 'Kurfurstendamm'. The Victoria and Albert Museum has uncovered a full archive of the stolen masterpieces Photomontage: Mark Hayman

mation contained in these documents, historians will now know of several thousand more works confiscated by the Nazis. The new complete set of artists and works lists 18,000 paintings and sculptures. Only 12,000 had been officially collated in

public archives before. Most, crucially, these newly such was the Nazi contempt for which paintings were destroyed and which were sold.

A number of paintings by Munch are listed as having been confiscated and sold. So are 10 works by Georg Grosz. the subject of a London exhibition at present. But numerous photographs by Man Ray, one of the greatest photographers of the 20th century, are marked X, meaning destroyed. One of

scripts contain handwritten notes stating whether the paint-ings should be sold or destroved, which dealers they were sold to and what prices they fetched. The prices are staggeringly low. A number of works by Munch were sold for less than 10 Swiss francs.

The discovery will cause excitement not only among art his-Compiled by the Nazi min- the Third Reich. Andreas ly had to close because it proved istry of propaganda the type- Huneke, an art historian in

Potsdam who has specialised in this area, said yesterday: "Now we can see the glorious names of the artists and the names of their works. And we can see which of the works were destroyed. It is very important."

It is well-known that the Nazis seized artworks they thought degenerate and put on a special exhibition of them in - an exhi

Copies of the first volume, detailing the places where works were confiscated alphabetically from Aachen to Griefswald. are held in archives in Berlin and Poisdam. But the second, H-Z, volume listing thousands of other seizures had been

thought lost for decades. It has now been discovered among books in a bequest left dealer, Harry Fischer, in 1977. first complete record of the number of works the Nazis had removed from German museums, was handed to the V&A by his widow, unaware of what it contained.

Susanna Robson, assistant curator in Special Collections. said: "What is so exciting about this is that it is complete. It appears to be the only complete

on trying to find out what happened to this document. We will be making it available for their study.

enna in 1903 to Jewish middle class parents. In 1938 he fled to England, where he served in the British Army's Pioneer Corps during the Second World War. In 1946 he founded the Marl-"There have been people in and in 1971 opened his own

Flicker of hope from brain damage victim astonishes doctors

Annabel Ferriman

Doctors yesterday called for more medical details on the case of a man who has made a partial recovery after spending five vears in a vegetative state.

The Royal College of Physicians said that it would welcome any clinical information with a bearing on the guidelines surrounding the condition, which is usually thought to be irreversible after a year.

The doctors and parents of 30-year-old Hillsborough victim Andrew Devine, from Allerton. near Liverpool, confirmed that five years after the football disaster, he had recovered sufficiently to communicate simple

The case is significant because doctors have never before recorded a case in which anyone regained the ability to communicate after more than three years in such a condition. Medical guidelines say that doctors can apply to a court to have a patient's food and hydration withdrawn after 12 months,

Mr Devine's parents, Stanley, and Hilary, speaking through their solicitor, Robin Makin, yesterday said: "Andrew began to emerge from the vegetative state about five years after his diagnosis [in 1989] and has continued to improve in his abilily to communicate at a simple level, using a touch-sensitive buzzer switch developed by the Royal Hospital [for Neurodis-

ability in south London].

"His ability to recover further." is unknown. Andrew's condition is of the utmost seriousness and he needs constant attention. Andrew has a civil claim against the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police, in respect of which judgment has been obtained but damages have still to be assessed and no further information can he given in respect to this mat-

A proper care regime, including substantial physiother-apy, has been involved to ensure that Andrew has the best care reasonably available."



Rex Makin and Company, from Liverpool, added that his parents had given Andrew devoted love and care.

Dr Keith Andrews, director of medical and research services at the Royal Hospital for Neurodisability, where Mr Devine has been regularly assessed and treated, said yesterday that although his improvement had been limited, he had been able to communicate a few simple ideas. We recognised back in 1994 that there were signs that

6 To emerge from a PVS after five years as Andrew has done is pretty remarkable. The longest time

has been three years \mathcal{P}

communicating consistently." He was able to reply to questions by pressing the buzzer once for yes and twice for no.
"He expressed which football
team he supported. One of our therapists asked him: 'Is Manchester the best football team in the country? He answered no. The same happened when she asked about Everton. But when she asked: 'Is Liverpool the best team?' Andrew answered yes.

"When we first told Anhe was becoming aware. It was drew's carers that we thought he only last year, that we got him was responding, they were not

States of unconsciousness

Vegetative state
No awareness of self or environment; eyes open and shut,
as though awake and asleep, can breathe normally; most
have to be fed through a tube.

No verbal response; cannot be roused; does not obey com-mands or open eyes either spontaneously or to any stim-ulus; must be ted through a time. Can regain consciousness after many months.

Patient is conscious and aware of surroundings, but is to-tally paralysed, and can usually only respond by eye move-

Brain stem death. Damage to the brain is irreversible. Patient is unconscious and unable to breath without a ventilator.

convinced at first. We were only able to prove that he could because of our expertise and

technology," he said. Dr Andrews, who caused a furore last summer when he showed that some cases of persistent vegetative state (17 out of 40 in his study) had been wrongly diagnosed and that patients who had thought to be vegetative could actually communicate, believes that Mr Devine's state is due to a genuine improvement, not to an original misdiagnosis. There are thought to be between 1.000 and 1.500 people in a PVS in

"For someone to emerge from a PVS after five years as Andrew has done is pretty remarkable. We have treated a large number of people, who have not come out of such states even after a long time. The longest time after which anyone has ever emerged from a vegetative state before has been three years. It is rare to emerge from such a state after a year," he said.

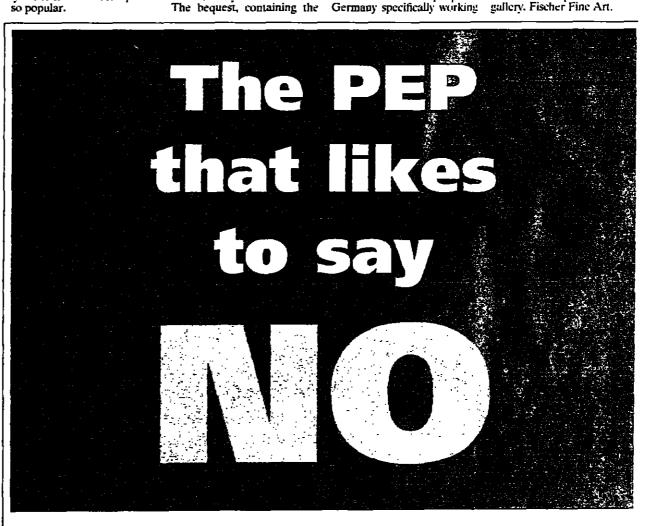
Britain.

'You cannot make decisions on such rare cases. If it occurs only once in 10,000 cases, you have got to give some consideration to the other 9,999 cases. Are you respecting them by continuing to do absolutely everything for them, such as putting up drips and so on, just pecause one person has man-

aged to emerge."

A spokesperson for the Royat College of Physicians, which last year issued guidelines telling doctors how to recognise PVS, said: "The college would welcome any new clinical information being sent to them. which has a bearing on the guidelines."

The parents of Tony Bland, the Hillsborough victim whose family won the right from the House of Lords to withdraw his life support in 1993, said yesterday that the development in the Devine case did not affect the case of their son, who had a particularly severe case of PVS, and they had "no regrets".



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return of the bombers

IRA back in fray with trackside explosions

bombing campaign began yesterday with a bizarre coded warning to an elderly woman apparently chosen at random.

The two explosions which followed at Wilmslow in Cheshire caused serious disruption to railway traffic in the North-west. Two firefighters investigating the first device were just 200 yards away when the second went off rocking the town. Debris from a signal relay hox damaged in the incident was scattered across 100 yards

a new road bypass. Ian Moody, Cheshire's assistant chief constable, said the explosions "bore all the hallmarks of the IRA", and John Major condemned the attack as a "two-fingered assault on

The IRA said yesterday it remained committed to bringing what it called the British goverament's undemocratic rule of Northern Ireland"to an end once and for all". In a hardline Easter message, IRA leaders.

said they stood "ready to face help from the public," he said. tion and neighbouring homes, their responsibilities in facili- Asked whether the bombers' when another call to a Mantating a process aimed at securing a lasting resolution to the conflict between the British gov-

emment and the Irish people". John Grieve, the head of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch who joined the Wilmslow investigation, asked all members of the public to be vigilant and appeals for businesses to keep any closed-circuit television tapes for inspection. "All our successes in recent vears have been driven by

intention was economic sabotage or to kill, he said: "All terrorist devices threaten human life, that's what their purpose is. [But] there are economic elements to the way terrorists be-

have. The first indication of the attack came in a telephone call to a private address in Wilmslow at 5.30am which warned of a bomb left at the town's police station. Police were alerted and

when another call to a Manchester hospital raised the possibility that another type of station was intended.

As officers extended the alert, a bomb went off at 6.30am on railway tracks 40 yards from Wilmslow station platform and not far from a leisure centre to which more than 80 people had been taken for safety.

Paul Gozem, one of those moved, said: "What the police had in fact done was take us a

again before the second blast 35 minutes later. But households next door to the railway station woken by the blast.

Karen Lindsay, 44. who lives opposite, said: "It was this explosion which you knew wasn't a normal noise. It shook the house." Near-neighbour Denise. Moore, 37, added: "I was quite surprised that we weren't evacuated. I guess they didn't realknow what was going on." Passengers on four trains on reopen today but a Railtrack

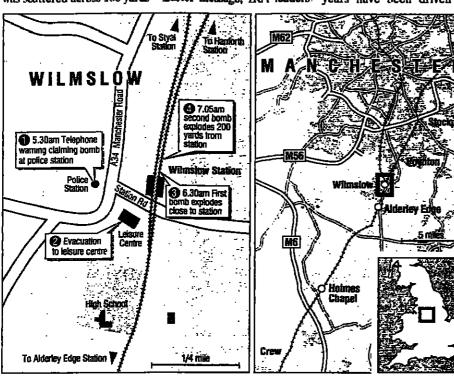
ed but eventually rescued. Local rail services were cancelled although the main West Coast knew nothing until they were hine from Manchester to London remains largely unaffected.

Similar bomb warnings at Doncaster, South Yorkshire. closed the East Coast line for some time but it reopened when nothing was found. Army bomb squad officers combed the Wilmslow site before detectives moved in to investigate. The station was expected to

spokesman, said there would be some continued disruption to services. The precise damage to track was unknown.

Police have warned since before Christmas of an increased threat of a bombing campaign

prior to the election. The Wilmslow attack is the latest in a number of attacks in the region. Last June, a huge IRA bomb devastated the centre of Manchester, and four years ago two schoolboys. Tim Parry and Johnathan Ball, were killed in Warrington.



Party leaders snipe over peace process

Fran Abrams, Steve Boggan and Colin Brown

Before the dust from the Wilmslow hombings had settled. sniping broke out between the major parties as both Labour and the Tories apparently broke a cross-party agreement not to make political capital out of ter-

Tony Blair was reported to be over accusations by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, that Labour could not be trusted to be tough on terrorism. However, it emerged later that the deputy Labour leader. John Prescott, had attacked the Tories over the peace process earlier in the day.

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During a campaign visit to Luton airport vesterday. Mr Prescott was stopped at the terminal by a Labour supporter, originally from Northern Ireland, who asked what a Labour government's policy towards the province would be. Mr Prescott told him: "We are going to sit down and talk. In that sense there is no difference

between us and the Tories." But he added: "The peace process broke down when Major decided in order to stay in power he had to do all sorts of deals over Northern Ireland."

Mr Howard put out a statement saying that Mr Blair had never once voted for the re-

newal of the Prevention of Ter-

rorism Act. "His vote - and the votes of his party - show that you cannot trust Labour to be tough on terrorism," it said.

Aides of Mr Blair responded by releasing details of an agreement struck between the two parties last week on how to act in the event of a terrorist attack during the election campaign. The agreement, which was similar to others followed over a number of years, said that no spokesman should overreact to any incident, and that any outrage expressed should be directed towards the terrorists.

Mr Blair gave vent to his anger in a letter to the Prime Minister accusing Mr Howard of "an extraordinary act of attempted opportunism: As you know we have given you and your government strong bipartisan support in your search for peace in Northern Ireland.

"It seems to me that making political capital out of a terrorist attack is an extremely irresponsible way for a Home Secretary to act. I doubt that those who have suffered from today's and previous IRA attacks will understand this extraordinary act of attempted oppor-

The Tory chairman, Brian Mawhinney hit back, writing to Mr Blair to protest at Mr Prescott's comments. He referred to Mr Prescott's suggestion yesterday that the peace

process broke down when the Prime Minister decided to do "deals" over Northern Ireland in order to stay in power.

Dr Mawhinney said in his letter: "To make such a suggestion at any time, let alone on a day when it seems terrorist violence has once again scarred the face of mainland Britain, is breathtakingly irresponsible and shows a cavalier disregard for the sensitivities of politics in Northern Ireland.

"Since you have, on many occasions, insisted that Labour is pursuing a 'bipartisan' approach to Northern Ireland issues. asking you immediately to disown John Prescott's remarks and make clear that they do not represent the Labour Party's

John Major, on an election visit to Bradford, did just that, describing the attack as "a twofingered insult to democracy".

Calling on Sinn Fein leaders to condemn the bombing with-out "weasel words" Mr Major said: "I hope Sinn Fein IRA are not going to conduct their campaign with the ballot box in Northern Ireland and with bombs on the main land. People would be wise to be vigilant."

Despite increased security fears the Prime Minister said the attack would not stop the election campaign. "I shall be out there meeting the people," he



Railway failed to update security

Transport Correspondent

Senior civil servants were left in the dark about who to contact in the event of a terrorist attack last year because British Rail procedures were not undated after privatisation, according to documents obtained by the

Indevendent. The Home Office manual of counter-terrorist contingency plans was reviewed last year. When officials sought to update their lists, they discovered that many numbers and job positions had changed dramatically after

the sell-off of British Rail. In a letter dated 29 October 1996 to Iain King, the security

Crucial amendments overlooked after privatisation project manager for British land. Railway sources were spring 1993. Police identified Rail, from the Department of quick to point out that anti-ter-which train was carrying the de-

Transport, civil servants ask for "amendments" to the manual that are "required in the lightof privatisation and fragmentation of the rail industry".

"Some of the references have now been superseded and I would be grateful for your advice on who now employs the relevant personnel," adds Mike Haley, a civil servant from the

Insiders say that many procedures are reviewed before Christmas, a time traditionally when terrorists target the mainrorist police take charge of op-erations and they would co-ordinate any reaction to a

terrorist attack. A spokeswoman for the Home Office said: "These documents are regularly reviewed and updated".

Railways are a prime target for terrorists. The only fatality occurred in February 1991, when a bomb exploded in Vic-

toria station, in London. The only explosion on a train occurred on a commuter train from London to Ramsgate in

East Coast route. .All were defused by controlled explosion - although commuter services in the North

vice and they stopped it at Kent House and had just man-West were thrown into confusion and the East Coast line was aged to evacuate the train when paralysed for most of the morning. There were no fatalities. The bombs were intended as the device exploded. The railway network is the only completely fenced net-work in the world, but in many a surgical strike on the country's rail network - a tactic the IRA

protection from a determined 1991, when services ground to Yesterday's attacks were aimed at taking out Britain's two main rail arteries. Three bombs were placed in two locations one on the West Coast line at

places this provides inadequate

Wilmslow, Cheshire - the oth-

a halt and I million commuters were stranded. London's extensive rail network is now covered by surveillance cameras and there is a police presence on many platforms to deter terrorist attacks.

used at Clapham Junction in





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Basildon puts on the glitz for party big guns

Gordon Brown follows Michael Howard into the town that meant so much to Tories

The welcome was warm and came, inevitably, in the shape of an attractive young woman wearing a white mini-skirt and white high-beels. The election cam-paign had arrived in Essex. Michael Howard shook her hand and

strode confidently into Time nightclub. with its glitzy entrance and tacky, flashing wall lights. The Home Secretary was holding court ostensibly to discuss the club's progressive attitude to drug con-

But, given that it was located in Basildon, traditionally the nation's political barometer and a constituency recently. abandoned by David Amess, the sitting Tory MP, the suspicion that he was here to woo the electorate was irresistible.

It is a very important area for us. he admitted. "The whole of Essex is important and I am very confident we can win here. It would be a rash person who said there is nothing that can be done."
But, with the Tories defending a majointy of only 1,480 and with Mr Amess

hopping over to the safer seat of Southend West, there was little conviction in Mr Howard's voice. When it was pointed out to him that

there were no Conservatives left on the local council, his response was hardly upbeat. "There is no relationship between local elections and Parliamentary elections," he said. "There are countless He drew gasps when he broke the news examples of where we have low repre- of Tim Smith's resignation and went fursentation on the council, but hold the Parliamentary seat." The mood in Basildon has undoubtedly

changed since the Tories swept to victory there in 1992, a victory that heralded the national success hours later. The parties know the importance of the seat - and they both intend to win it.

As if to ram home the point, Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, rode into town two hours after Mr Howard left and moved closer to Europe

delivered a blistering speech on the be-trayal of Basildon Man.

Reminding them of John Major's promise not to increase VAT, he said: Within a year, that promise had been broken. Tory promise, Tory betrayal." Then he reminded them of similar broken promises on insurance contributions, mortgage tax relief ... in fact, on

Let me tell Michael Heseltine in terms he might understand," he said. "The Tories are taxing us before breakfast, as soon as we turn the heating on, taxing us before knich and taxing us before dinner. And before you get up the next morning, we're being taxed all over again.'

The audience - including a group who had switched from Tory to Labour

lapped it up. Geraldine Evans, 51, landlady of The Barge in Vange, was typical of the group.
"I have never worked so hard for so little in all my life," she said. "What the
Coservatives have done has made me very sad. People don't seem to count for much any more—there are people in Basildon earning between £1.80 and £2.20 an hour. I never believed anyone as moderate as myself could vote Labour. But I've looked at their policies and they're closer to my own beliefs."

Tory stock was indeed low last night as Mr Brown savaged the party's performance during his speech to supporters. ther by making fun of the sitting MP's move eastwards.

"I came here hoping to meet David Amess," he said. There is a courtesy in the House of Commons that when you visit a constituency of a sitting Tory MP you write him a letter - but mine was returned marked 'Return to sender. Gone away.' It seems David Amess is the only Tory candidate in this campaign who has



Brought to heel: A member of staff going into the Time nightclub in Basildon, Essex, yesterday after welcoming

Essex road scheme takes a confusing turn ...

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

The Department of Transport was thrown into complete confusion yesterday by a ministerial "announcement" of an £87.5m road scheme for Essex. John Watts, the Minister for Roads, issued a press notice on "Conservative News" notepaper, announcing the scheme during a visit to the county, in which the Tories are defending three key marginal constituencies. He said: "Noise on the A120 between Stansted and Braintree is to be reduced,

and a section of the M11 is to be widened." The news was presented as a victory for the "tireless" campaign that had been con-ducted by two local MPs. Tony Newton, Leader of the Commons, and Sir Alan

Haselhurst, MP for Saffron Waldon. But when The Independent asked the Department of Transport for the facts; when the decision had been taken and why the announcement had been improperly made during an election campaign, all questions were referred to the department's political adviser. A departmental press officer said: "We're in purdah; there's an election

on. It is not a departmental matter." The Highways Agency said it would try to find the answers to factual questions about the scheme, specifically when it had been asked to carry out a review of noise mitigation measures on the A120.

Some hours later, the ministerial political adviser. Lucy Miller, said that the announcement of the roads scheme had been made as part of the November budget package, along with many other roads schemes. She thought that Mr Watts's announcement of the noise mitigation review was "a genuine announcement.

But it is departmental policy to make public announcements of road schemes as early as possible, to relieve local concern and clarify any threat of blight on affected homes and other property. Ms Miller thought the decision on the noise review had been taken "some time ago."

At that point the Highways Agency said that the Department of Transport press officer who had earlier refused to say anything would now answer all questions. The department was unable to answer any questions because it is caught up in election rules which prohibit any action that might be taken as partisan. The Independent was told later that the Watts scheme was not a government scheme at all, but an Essex County Council project, and that no decision had yet been taken on the noise review.

Ashdown meets hardened criminal with a soft spot

A self-confessed armed robber yesterday took a tough line on criminals and confessed a soft spot for Paddy Ashdown.

Speaking from behind bars at Colchester police station. Steven Tansey, who is in the third year of a six-year sentence, thought prisons were "too soft". There were curtains, carpets and in some cells electricity. Military-style boot camps were just the ticket as far as he was concerned.

He would have volunteered for the nearby camp, but he was too far into his sentence to qualify. As Mr Ashdown toured the "cus-

tody suite" at the police station, Tansey, who was jailed for robbing a Post Office armed with a knife, volunteered that he would have voted Labour if he wasn't "inside", but that

he didn't really trust Tony Blair. I think he might have something up his sleeve," said Tansey ,who is due for release next year and was

helping police with "other inquiries". Despite his leanings towards Labour he thought Mr Ashdown was "a good bloke" who knew what he was talking about. Alas the Liberal Democrat leader,

visiting a key constituency for his party, never got a chance to persuade the forlorn Tansey of the party's political virtues. Mr Ashdown was guided away by a custody officer as the prisoner told of his "smashing family" and how he had got into bad

Officers at the station failed to

share the prisoner's enthusiasm for the efficacy of a "short, sharp, shock"

at the local boot camp. Chief Inspector Peter Sheldrake pointed out that the authorities there were failing to "attract" the inmates

they were looking for. There were 32 places at the camp, meant for 18 to 21-year-olds, but only 11 of them had been filled. You've got be career-minded to get into the place," said Ch Insp Sheldrake. "They are struggling to find people who meet the criteria." He said that because it was an open regime serious offenders were not counte-

Emphasising the issue of law and order yesterday, Mr Ashdown commented that boot camps were "hugely expensive and tough sounding

gimmicks", and that the boot camp inmates were costing the taxpayer nearly £1,935 a week each. "That is more expensive than a stay at the

Of more concern to the police of-ficers was their inability to keep persistent young offenders off the streets. One said: "They spend most of their time committing burglaries to feed their drug habit and then they are taken into care." Pointing down to the cells, he said: "It's a joke downstairs. They see care as an opportunity to have a dinner, a wash and a shave and then they are off again.

Earlier in the day, Mr Ashdown himself was at the scene of a crime. The Liberal Democrat leader was giving his considered opinions on the day's events to a posse of camera

crews when suddenly a brace of ruf-

fians came past in a lorry. The bald, middle-aged "oik" in the passenger seat - who seemed strangely familiar - grinned humourously at Mr Ashdown and in-cited the driver to drown out the interviews by sounding his horn. On the back of the lorry was a large advertisement: "Britain's Booming. Don't Let Labour Blow It."

This was Dr Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, who was on a charm offensive mund the streets of Westminster.

As confirmed by police at Colchester. Dr Mawhinney was guilty of an offence - sounding his horn without good reason, Said a constable: "On a bad day I would have nicked him for breach of the peace.



On patrol: Mr Ashdown with two Colchester officers Photograph: John Voos





Steve Boggan and Anthony Bevins

Labour says it will give NHS more money every year on condition it is spent on patient care

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, last night matched the Tory pledge to increase health spending, year-on-year. in real terms - after months of baiting by ministers.

Speaking in Basildon, Essex. Mr Brown said: "I told the Shadow Cabinet today that a Labour government will spend more on the NHS. Indeed government spending will rise in real

But he added that he and Chris Smith, the party's health spokesman, would be setting one condition for the extra money: "a condition that will bring comfort to every patient of the NHS. Yes, we will give the NHS more money every year. But unlike the Torics, we will insist that every penny of that goes not to administration, but to patient care."

later that the promise would be included in Labour's manifesto, finalised at a special meeting of the Shadow Cabinet and the party national executive yesterday. for publication next week.

We're just showing that it is not true that the Tories are spending more on the NHS than we plan to," he said. "What is more important is our commilment to move funding from bureaucracy into patient care."

ifesto would help create a bond of trust with the electorate, and would not promise anything learn new skills throughout that could not be delivered.

In spite of Conservative elmain themes, by concentrating their fire on trade union rights, saying: "A vote for Labour is a burial of tax-and-spend politics

Earlier, Tony Blair had vote for small class sizes, better-promised that the Labour man-quality teaching, new targets for quality teaching, new targets for reading and writing, more nursery places and a chance to

your life David Blunkett, the party's forts to divert attention from the main themes, by concentrating education spokesman, said:
"This will be the education election." But the Labour Mr Blair played up the "number one priority" of education, manifesto would mark "the

contain an agenda for tax cuts. "It pledges that we will cut

VAT on heating to its lowest possible level of 5 per cent. And. rate of tax to 10p." He said later, however, that

the 10p starting rate of income tax was an "ambition" and not a firm commitment, with benefit of the wealthy, Labour

from Labour" and that it would going to make promises that we can't deliver on this," he said.

Asked whether the burial of tax and spend and his agenda for lower taxes meant a cut in for the first time, it includes our the overall tax burden, Mr Blair ambition to cut the starting made no commitment either way - other than to say that while the Tories were promising reductions in Capital Gains Tax and inheritance Tax for the would concentrate its efforts on

tax cuts for the low-paid. He said any pledge made "we will keep and the single most important thing in this election in relation to tax is going to be to rebuild the trust between goverament and people because that trust was broken by the

Conservatives". Today is the fifth anniversary of John Major's pledge, given during the 1992 election campaign, that there would be no extension of VAT It was extended to domestic fuel and power bills in the 1993 Budget.

Prescott makes merry as man of people

Jojo Moyes

"We've got Mr Soames, now there's a man. He's that walking food mountain you see on TV. Mind you. I

shouldn't talk too much The speaker pushed his hair from his forehead, and his jowly features into a slv smile, and waited for the laugh. The delivery may have been pure Les Dawson - but the words were pure John Prescott.

In the second week of his "Prescott Express" nationwide tour of 90 key seats, the deputy leader of the Labour Party was working the crowds with the professionalism of a veteran cabaret performer. Whether he had, as was rumoured. been "exiled" to the regions to prevent him from saying something too blunt for the spin doctors, or whether he was simply deemed the best person to bring New Labour's message to a cynical electorate. there was no doubt he was playing

Striding out of the reach of his ever-changing team of minders, Mr Prescott appears determined to keep the scent of stage-management from his dealings with real people.

Donning a server's hat to dole out

meat pies to pensioners, or bringing terror to his advisers' faces by donning a toy policeman's hat in front of aphers and ask-Mr Prescott certainly does it his way. Not like that John Major."



House calls: John Prescott meeting the people by resurrecting the unfashionable political art of door-to-door

has been redeemed in the eyes of the electorate, the deputy leader's manner elicits an unusual level of warmth. Gemma Layton, and Jacqui Bednarek, both 18, from Leighton Buzzard, spent some time discussing with him Labour's plans for education. "He's not bigh and mighty at

It is the issue of trust that Mr Prescott is pushing hard, capitalising on continuing barrage of Tory sleaze allegations. Everywhere he travels. Mr Prescott is handing out "pledge" cards and signing them. These outline Labour's early pledges for class ing "What am I if I've got this on?". all," they said. "He's down to earth. lists, youth unemployment and the economy. (and the means of fi-

lined: "Keep this card and see that we keep our promises". The cards are a key feature of the

tour. "The signature is a personal thing. We're hoping it will help build trust." Mr Prescott says. "There's a lot of cynicism around and rarely see politicians, during elections or otherwise."

that greet Mr Prescott in Northamp- of locals and party members at ton or the departure iounge of Lu- Northampton's Parklands Commuton Airport, suggest this may be true. nity Centre as he rapped with live-One teenager who had his pledge. ly and seamless political oratory. card signed hissed at a friend: "That's

the leader of the Labour Party."

But while drawing easy laughter on the subject of William Walde-To drive home this theme, Mr grave's "misleading of Parliament". night opened with a rounding attack ment", the questions that voters r otherwise."

on Tory sleaze. Speaking largely off ask in reply are not about sleaze, but the cuti, he captivated an audience the issues that directly affect them

- pensions, education, unemploy-

ment and crime. The answers they get appear to satisfy. Mr Prescott is, he keeps saying. only going to be "realistic". He won't ise what he can't deliver. Sometimes he is quite blunt, but were the than this apparently belligerent, bluff Northerner one wonders whether

they would take it so readily.

Tories return to the attack on Labour's union agenda

Political Correspondent

Labour's plans for trade-union recognition came under renewed attack vesterday as the Conservatives tried to expose what they said were plans for cross-European co-operation between unions.

Clearly pleased with reaction to Monday's onslaught on the Opposition's plans to recognise unions if more than half the workforce in a company agreed, ministers moved to take the is-

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sue a step further. Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, highlighted details of a manifesto published last year by the European Trade Union Confederation which backed an "employment union" similar to planned economic and monetary union. If implemented, the plans would cialists, to discuss the employ-

lead to a 35-hour week, harmonised tax and job-creation policies and an EU employment quango as well as expansion of the public sector, Mr Lang said. He said Labour's deputy

leader, John Prescott, had backed the manifesto, "Today's revelations show Labour's agenda for hoosting union power doesn't end with statutory recognition. They are also seeking to mislead ... people into thinking the Social Chapter poses no threat. But the fact is that the trade unions are salivating at the prospect of the new powers it would give them."

Mr Prescott said Mr Lang's claims were based "on a total misapprehension".

"I was invited to address the European trade unions on February 1, 1996 as a vice-president of the Party of European So-

ment chapter proposed at the are proposing. Britain would re-Inter-Governmental Confer- main with a more restricted ence (of EU leaders). No pact was signed. The employment chapter under discussion is Western world." about job creation and reducing unemployment. It is not about employee rights or a

tour-day week. Tony Blair issued a fresh defence of Labour's plans for recognition within British companies, saying New Labour had no plans to return to the strife of the 1960s or 1970s. The Conservatives had been indulging in scare tactics, he said.

There is no return under our proposals to the legislation of the 1970s - no secondary action. no secondary picketing, flying picketing, no return to the days of strikes without ballots or the days when union leaders didn't have to be elected by baliots. Even after every change we

trade-union legislative framework than any country in the

The Liberal Democrat leader. Paddy Ashdown, said both parties' histories were coming back to haunt them, but he backed Labour's view that employees should be able to seek union recognition. "There is no reason why a workforce should not vote for the union that will represent it. There is no reason why any individual who does not wish to be a member of a union should not be able to do so. This is a boary old chestnut dragged up from the past. If you look and see what people actually do in British industry today, they built partnerships, some involving unions, some not.
"That's the way of the future."



significant shorts

Thatcher attacks union 'bullies'

Baroness Thatcher visited Conservative Central Office yesterday for the first time since she was forced out of office in 1990. Lady Thatcher spent two hours inside touring different departments.

She told reporters: "Britain is strong. Her economy is strong. Now, we see Mr Blair's Labour party is wanting to bring in legislation to enhance the power of the trade unions. He wants to increase the power of the bully boys, to go back to things we managed to see off." Fran Abrams

SNP tries to stop TV debate
Counsel for the Scottish Nationalist Party told a Scottish
judge yesterday that the party would be disadvantaged in its campaign if it were not allowed to take part in the proposed television debate between party leaders. The SNP is seeking an interim interdict (an injunction) to stop STV and Grampian broadcasting the proposed debate.

Abortion is election message Cardinal Thomas Winning, leader of Scotland's Roman Catholics, has urged members of his church to make abortion the most important issue in the election. In a four-page election message, to be distributed to churches on Easter Sunday, the Cardinal states that "the first priority for Christians ... is to uphold the right to life".

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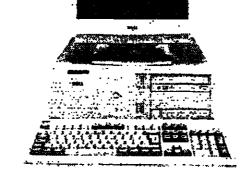
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election countdown

MP Jim Smith and his wife Jenny after his resignation yesterday over the cash-

Tim Smith thrust back to obscurity

Christian Wolmar Westminster Correspondent

Tim Smith, the former Northern Ireland minister, will now return to the obscurity from which only the cash-for-questions scandal has removed

Mr Smith's years in Parliament have been indistinguished and uneventful. He first came to brief prominence when he won the 1977 Ashfield by-election, a Labour stronghold which it lost because of the financial crises and mid term blues of the 1974-9 government.

He lost the seat at the subsequent 1979 elec-

tion but came back to Parliament at a by-election in 1982, beating off the challenge of one Tony Blair.

Mr Smith's reputation of anonymity once compelled the former Labour minister, Gerald Kaufman, to observe, when Mr Smith appeared at the Despatch Box as a Northern Ireland minister: "I knew the honourable gentleman had learned to crawl, but I did not

know that he had learned to speak."

He was educated at Harrow and Oxford and spent his early years as a tax specialist. As a result he acquired a batch of consultancies in the financial sphere: the British Insurance and Investment Brokers. Association, the Commodity Traders Group, Lloyds Group Union and the British Venture Capital Association. But it was his undeclared work in 1987 for Mohamed Al Fayed that was to be his undoing Evidence leaked last week from the

Downey inquiry into cash for questions reveals that Mr Smith was given several bundles of £50 notes by Mr Al Fayed and was unable to say exactly how much money he received, though it was thought to be between £18,000 and £25,000. The evidence made clear that Mr aken the money had declared th money to the Inland Revenue only as part of partnership carnings with his wife and failed to note his interest on the members' register.

Although Mr Smith says he told the Chief Whip, David Waddington, in 1989 about the payments. Mr Smith still went on to become a junior Northern Ireland minister in 1994 as a result of the reshuffle caused by the resignation of Tim Yeo, who was involved in a sex

He promptly resigned when allegations of the payments were made and investigated by Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, but a crucial delay of at least 10 days between Mr Smith telling Sir Robin and his eventual resignation has not been explained by the

Mr Smith admitted to his constituency that he had taken the money and yet its officers stood by him. Moreover, John Major, the Prime Minister, did not refer Mr Smith to the Members' Interest Committee, despite the clear breach of the rules, and so after his resignation Mr Smith returned to backbench obscurity and, amazingly, a seat on the Public Accounts Committee which monitors public

Hope of reprieve handed to GP fundholders

Chief Political Correspondent

GP fundholders could be given a reprieve following assurances by Chris Smith, Labour's shadow health secretary, to GP leaders that he would allow flexibility in his plans for replacing them with commissioning.

BMA leaders emerged from the meeting saying they were en-couraged that Mr Smith would allow some GPs to hold budgets provided they were permitted by other GPs in their locality.

Mr Smith's aides said fundholding would be replaced by joint commissioning for NHS care within four years of a Labour government taking office. But the promise of flexibili-

ty could forestall the threat of a campaign to stop the plans by some GP fundholders. John Chisholm, deputy chairman of the GPs' committee said: "Chris Smith was pragmatic and sen-sible about it. I think his policies are still evolving. It would be ridiculous for the average fundholder to conclude from. what we heard that fundholdgovernment.

30,000 GPs would like to con-

tinue with fundholding.
Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, is planning to go on the offensive next week by announcing that 53 per cent of all doctors are now voluntary fundholders who would be hit by Labour's plans. Sources close to Mr Dorrell said Labour had claimed the GPs had joined against their will. The BMA had given the lie to Labour's

claims," the source said. BMA leaders last night denied they were on a collision course with Labour and rejected reports they had given Mr Smith "some home truths" in their meeting which had been called to clarify Labour's plans. Labour's election manifesto

next week will pledge to replace fundholding with joint commissioning by GPs co-operating together to supply care, ending the system under which fundholders can enable patients in effect to jump the queues for treatment by NHS Trusts.

The BMA said that there were still a lot of "grey areas" about Labour's plans. "We think those who entered funding will be dead under a Labour holding have put in a massive government."

amount of time, effort and However, Mr Chisholm said money and clearly we don't be-BMA leaders told Mr Smith lieve it can be abandoned that about a third of Britain's overnight," said a BMA source. | single currency on offer."

Open and shut book for shy Redwood

Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

There had, apparently, been a genuine punter in the Vic-toria Street branch of Books, Etc. just before John Redwood arrived to sign copies of his new tome. But he or she had taken fright on seeing the massed ranks of Her

Majesty's press and had left. The former Secretary of State for Wales was left forlornly signing a huge pile of pa-perbacks of Our Curricy, Our Country while the hacks fired questions at him in the hope of catching a hint of dissent.

Was this the opening shot in a Torv leadership campaign? Why had Mr Redwood first cancelled the official launch of his book and then staged a bastily arranged signing? Had he been strong-armed by the Prime Minister? Had his talks with the whips been enjoyable? Was his anti-European stance

splitting his party?
But Mr Redwood steadfastly toed the line. "I am singing from a very similar hymn sheet to the Chancellor." he said, "The Cabinet is absolutely right to say 'no' to a fudged single currency. This book says there is very unlikely to be anything but a fudged

Dixons discount voucher

Used politician: charming model, one careful party, a real goer

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

Would you buy a used car from Steven Norris? Thousands did and 'not one of my customers ever complained", the former

transport minister reminds us. For a serial charmer like Mr Norris selling things is a lifelong obsession. Politics, you see, is not just about the policies, but how well you peddled them. Rarely bested, his skill at the despatch box often saw him upstage cabinet colleagues.

high office eluded him. Once a millionaire, he suffered financial losses in the 1980s and his political career stalled when it emerged he had wooed a string of women as well as a Now the former car dealer

Despite his obvious talents.

turned politician is leaving the Commons to "repair the hole in my personal balance sheet". "I have been rich and I have been famous, but I would rather be rich." be charms.

Before he goes, Mr Norris'

Randeep Ramesh follows a consummate performer making his valedictory sales pitch to the electorate

to rally true-blue troops in London and the South-east. He still turns in a creaseless performance. The tone is insistent, the stare unwavering and the message uncluttered. "Vote for the social chapter, the minimum wage, the union bosses - that is New Labour. The electorate bave to remember what this is really is about. The economy.

stupid ... he intones. And what about New Labour, Steve - dodgy politicos with dodgier policies? "Tony Blair, lovely chap. A shade too draconian for me. Really he encapsulated Douglas Hurd's ideas when he was shadow Home Secretary better than we did." Sorry, Steve?

*Oh Jack Straw, very capable and very nice. His mother is my constituent and a very good local councillor. I can't believe he believes what he says ... Oh. For Mr Norris this is politics,

cian's is that we all want the super-salesman will tailor his greatest good for the greatest number. There is infinitely more that unites us than divides us." the former salesman soundbites effortlessly.

How, one might ask, can a

6 I've been rich and famous but I'd rather be rich 🦻

Tory election chief speak of such things? "Very easily. If the present polls continue through and I am fighting to stop them - then Britain will wake up to a Labour government, replies Mr Norris.

If Tony Blair happens to run Whitehall after 1 May, then the

It will not be difficult. Dry as dust on economic issues. Mr Norris grew up with the sideburn liberalism of the 1960s that ensured he is "left of the mainstream Conservative party on

many social issues". Honesty, one imagines, is not always the best policy for politicians. Mr Norris indiscreet comment about commuters being "dreadful human beings" in 1995 had him up in the press sights for weeks.

The media lens is enormously discriminating. Most politicians just obfuscate and it accentuates that. I just believe is a real turn off.

Apart from collecting a re-spectable portfolio of jubs hefore he departs from the Commons - a £100,000 post as head of the Road Haulage Association, another part-time non-executive role with a bus

firm - Mr Norris believes leaving Westminster does not mean leaving politics.

teve Norris: Soundbite master leaving Commons

"On transport I might disigree with Andrew [Andrew Smith - Labour's front bench spokesman on transport[on how to tackle the investment problems facing the Tube - but want what's best for the passenger and I will work for

He even admits to the fact that bus deregulation has its "weaknesses". "The sheer volume of competition has let in too many cowboys," says Mr. Norris.

The next administration will find it difficult to dismiss his ideas. Mr Norris single handedly replaced the Conser-vatives' road-building fetish with a distinctly green-edged

Only last week, his admission that protesters were right to oppose the controversial Newbury bypass had ministers grumbling, "Steven took his job seriously," confessed one senior civil servant, "but not



election countdown

Voters wary of economic booms

Academics say electorate judges government on whole record

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

The good news for the Conservatives is that the economy does make a difference to votes. The bad news is that voters judge a government on its en- past three general elections. tire record, and not just what happens in the few months before the election.

These findings suggest that the Government's bid to exploit the economy in its "Britain is Booming campaign could prove futile.

Two academics, Colin Wren agreeing with Kenneth Clarke's often-repeated assertion that manipulation of the economy for political purposes around election time is not credible. As recently as this month the Chan-

ry is not 'boom boom Britain'." This week, however, the Conservative Research Department sent out a pamphlet titled "One Week in Booming Britain" listing a week's worth of news items showing the economy in the brightest possible light, ranging prices is less than a year old. from the official figures on unemployment (down) and retail sales (up) to the success of British designers in the Paris fashion week.

of the Royal Economic Society yesterday, suggests the economy only delivers votes if it has been performing well for a sus-tained period. There is no evielection date carry greater weight with voters.

They conclude that a preelection boom will carry fewest votes when it is most needed by

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The electorate is unlikely to be tooled by a late improvement in

economic indicators. The research shows that the economy did significantly affect the Conservatives' share of the vote at constituency level in the

House prices and unemployment were the most important influences. Falling inflation only mattered in 1983 because it had been so high beforehand, and faded in impor-

In the 1987 general election at the University of Newcastle and Daniel Dorling from Bristol University, find themselves 31.8 per cent to the Conservatives 31.8 per cent share of the vote. It was the fact that house prices had been climbing and unemployment falling for some years that made such a hig difference.

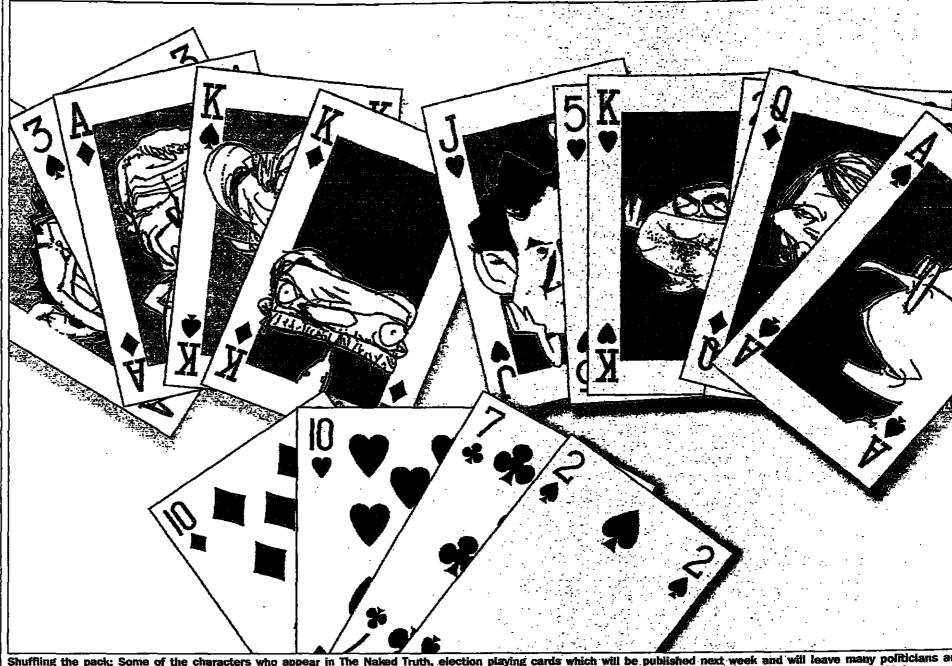
In 1992 there was little economic influence on votes. Alcellor said in a speech: "The sto-though unemployment had continued to fall, it was offset by the collapse in house prices.

This time around the fact that unemployment has been on a downward trend since the end of 1992 should help the Government. But the upturn in house

The authors warn too, that they can not rule out the possibility that the Government's humiliation over the pound's exit from the European Exchange But the new research, pre- Rate Mechanism has permasented at the annual conference mently changed the links between the economy and votes.

A separate pamphlet published yesterday, by the Conservative-leaning Centre for Policy Studies, claimed that the dence that events nearer to the British economy has undergone a "miracle". Author Keith Marsden, more in tune with the Chancellor's views, argues that the UK has been one of the best performing big economies over

Cards reveal the naked truth about MPs



Shuffling the pack: Some of the characters who appear in The Naked Truth, election playing cards which will be published next week and will leave many politicians and other household names exposed. From left: Tony Blair, Paddy Ashdown, Michael Heseltine, Robin Cook, Gordon Brown, John Prescott, Glenda Jackson and John Major

Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

Sir James Goldsmith has been shocked into silence. Mary Whitehouse has already been on the blower to New Scotland Yard. If nothing else, the publication of the 1997 election playng cards next week will leave Britain's political figures looking more than usually exposed.

The card pack, called The Naked Truth, features the first ever topless portrait of Mrs Whitehouse along with a series of slightly risqué likenesses of

While the shadow Chancellor, Gordon Brown, has appar-ently escaped lightly with only two of his cheeks in view, the current incumbent of the Treasury, Kenneth Clarke, is shown complete with four.

The Home Secretary, Michael Howard, creeps into the action as the Jack of Spades with a cheek-count of three, but bridge and poker players everywhere will be relieved to know that they are to be spared the sight of his nipples.

Jake, (aka Jason Pratt) who has

the Daily Telegraph, has taken few hostages. Sir James, the bil-lionaire founder of the Referendum Party, is given fullfrontal treatment, along with Labour's deputy leader, John Prescott, who appears in full head-to-toe glory as the King of

Still, not everyone will be upset. Michael Heseltine, the deputy Prime Minister, might even be quite flattered by the di-mensions of his portrayal as the King of Spades. The cartoonist, 26-year-old. But with a nipple count this

high - Harriet Harman, Margaret Beckett, Glenda Jackson

and Virginia Bottomley all join Mrs Whitehouse in the not-soexclusive club of the topless there are bound to be ructions. Sir James' personal assistant said he had seen the pack and had nothing to say, but Mrs

Whitehouse was true to form. Barely had The Independent replaced its telephone on the hook after calling her than a Sergeant Bill Taylor called back

from the central command at New Scotland Yard.

"We don't think we can do anything," he explained.

"This is where we take the

£156

the topless exposure of Mrs Whitehouse as an emergency, but the founder of the Viewers' and Listeners' Association does. Last night, she was taking legal advice on whether she could seek an injunction to prevent the

pack from being published. "I will have to have a look at this, but I would most certainly object." she said. "Nobody has approached me, and I would not

rave agreed to this." The publisher, Yasha display along with earlier ver-Beresiner of InterCol London, sions at the InterCol Gallety in was not unduly concerned. His

Chorley

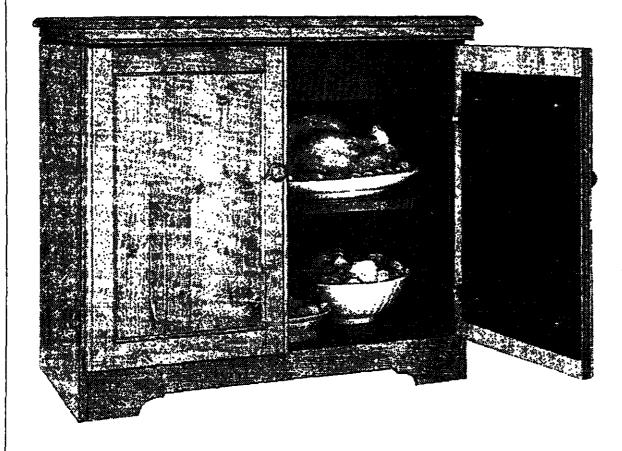
Mr. Taylor might not regard 1983 election, was in partnership with the V&A. Sales went through the roof after the museum was forced to withdraw its copies from the shelves for fear of allegations that it had shown

political bias. "I wouldn't say any of these were offensive. They are just a hit of fim," he said. "But if Mary Whitehouse wants to object, then that will be great.

For those readers with strong stomachs, the cards will be on Islington High Street, London,

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RMINATION

GENCE

Scruffy? We're too broke to be smart, say teachers

Judith Judd Education Editor

Teachers are struggling to gain respect in the face of television shows which portray them as crazy and poverty which forces them to wear scruffy clothes, a conference of the profession was told vesterday.

While the police and doctors are portrayed as caring and heroic in television shows such as BBC1's Casualty and Carlton's Thieftakers, BBC1's Chalk has a mentally unstable deputy head and teachers who lose

their trousers. At the annual conference of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers in Cardiff, complaints were made about the show during a debate about the need to improve teachers status. Members were also told that student teachers were teased by pupils because of their limited

Sara Kemsley, from Tonbridge Grammar School in Kent said: "We have a dazzling array of high-quality drama on television: The Bill, Hill Street Blues, ER, Casualty, Peak Practice. And then we have Chalk.

"The police and doctors are promoted as being full of dedcation, hard-working people battling heroically against the odds and under-funding.

"They deliver a service which is respected. Then you have a perverse and vapid comedy where you have an empty school apparently run by a mentally unwhich there are 15 delinquent youngsters and no attempt is being made to teach them."
Peter Smith, the association's

general secretary, objected to the show on the grounds that it was bad and unfunny. "I don't take it seriously as a malicious travesty of teaching. It is a lousy show and should be taken off." The series, by Steven Moffat, a former teacher, features Eric Slatt, played by David Bamber, as the deputy head of a comprehensive. A second se-

ries is already in preparation. Kevin Lygo, head of Inde-pendent Commissions Entertainment, who commissioned the series said: "Chalk is a comedy. Just as Ben Elton's Thin Blue Line does not reflect the modern police force nor the Vicar of Dibley the Church of England today, Chalk was never intended to reflect life in British schools."

Earlier, the conference was told that student teachers were too hard-up to look smart. Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, said recently that scruffy teachers should not be in the profession. But a survey commissioned by the Association from Oxford Brookes University revealed student teachers' financial plight.

Caroline Wake, 23, a newly qualified teacher from Holyport Manor School in Berkshire, said that she had been forced to take out three student loans during her training. From pext stable deputy head and a witty week she had to start paying plot involving a loss of trousers. week she had to start paying back her loans because her



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salary as a special-needs teacher had reached £15,000. Of that, £4,500 a year went on rent, well over £5,000, food £1,500 on tax £1.500 on telephone, gas and electricity and house mainte-

nance and £1,000 on a car. Paying back her loan at £840 a year left her £160 a year for clothes and everything else. Ms Wake, wearing a floral

said: "Am I really expected to look smart at school on that?" Andy Garner, head of history at Chantry High School, in Suffolk, who earns £25,000 afdress, T-shirt and cardigan, ter 25 years in teaching said:

"The local Oxfam shop has better clothes in it than our staff bought this jacket." He said that when his son joined the school where he taught everyone knew

that he was his son because the holes in their clothes were in the

same places. ■ Pupils are still making false allegations of assault against

rested though her headteacher was in the room with her at the time of the alleged assault and saw immediately that the alleteachers, it was said at the ATL gation was groundless.

Sea change to blame for end of dinosaur era

Charles Artinur Science Editor

The dinosaurs were already dying off when a massive asteroid crashed into the Earth about 65 million years ago, according to a leading group of British sci-

The real cause of their decline was probably a combination of climate changes, such as volcanic eruptions, combined with a gradual but significant drop in sea levels around the world, said a team of 22

The dinosaurs were not the only creatures to suffer as global climate change altered habitats, said Dr Norman McLeod, who led the research over the past 10 years.

Millions of species also disappeared over the course of almost 11 million years before and after the asteroid impact - an event geologists call the "Cretaceous-Tertiary biotic transition" - or, more pronounceably, the "K-T boundary"

The asteroid impact in the Yucatan peninsula in the Gulf of Mexico was confirmed last month by geological evidence that was finally tied together by

an American team.

But the British team, including scientists at the Natural History Museum, University College, London, and Birkbeck College reckon it was in fact only the coup de grâce for a huge number of species which disappeared from the fossil record soon afterwards.

"There are other ways than an asteroid to produce extinctions," said Dr McLeod, from the Natural History Museum.
"The sea level now is, histori-cally, low." That is because

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enlarging the ocean basins and

tats that species were used to.

Eventually animals and

The latest findings are published this week in the Journal of the Geological Society.

The asteroid impact theory had suggested that a huge extra-terrestrial rock hit the Earth, throwing up enough dust to cut out sunlight and cause the equivalent of a "nuclear winter" which wiped out the dinosaurs.

UCL, one of the paper's au-thors, said: "We can't say that the ineteorite didn't deal the fifading anyway.

"Maybe it was something

like genetic exhaustion - they couldn't adapt."

ST.JOSEPH'S HOSPICE MARE ST., LONDON EB 45A (Chartty Ref. No. 231323)

An Easter Message

May your kindness be blessed by peace and good health



"mid-ocean ridges" have fallen as the Earth's crust has shifted.

expanding their volume. The effect was to lower the sea level around the world. It would have fallen by about 50 to 100 metres over the course of mil-lions of years. But that has the effect of changing the climate, making summer and winter more extreme, and so in turn altering and fragmenting the habi-

plants would be marooned in 'islands" of favourable climate. and so become vulnerable to any change in conditions. Only the more adaptable would survive. Among those which did were mammals. However, mil-lions of plant and animal species at all levels of complexity became extinct as sea levels fell and weather systems

But Professor Alan Lord of nal blow, but they seemed to be

The Global Village: an idea said to have originated from Marshall McLuhan back in the 60s. in the Internet.

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EST.1997

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And the official opening of the gates to a village the size of a planet.

CONCERT









Kick in the pants for Tesco over cheap Levis

Nigel Cope and Chris Hughes

A supermarket chain has sparked a possible price war in Levi jeans by offering the fashionable 501 brand at prices up to £25 lower than those in othor stores.

Tesco's decision to charge just £30 for Levi 501s compared to prices of over £50 in Levi's own stores, brought an angry reaction from Levi Strauss and could prompt other retailers to join a price war in the battle for the "denim pound".

Tesco's move to start selling Levi 501s in 128 of its supermarkets this week was made without Levi's permission as the jeans giant said it did not consider supermarkets an appropriate place for its products to be sold. Levi's spends millions advertising its jeans which it promotes as stylish fashion essentials aimed principally at a teenage audience. It regards its jeans as too sexy to be sold alongside the frozen peas and loo rolls in a supermarket.

The move to cut the price of jeans is just the latest in a series of assaults by supermarkets on goods it regards as over priced. Other targets have included books, medicines and is a also re-run of the attempt the supermarkets to sell cut-



price perfumes a few years ago when the fragrance houses claimed the products needed to be sold by expert staff.

Levi's refusal to supply Tesco has forced the supermarket to go direct to an official Levi supplier in Mexico where it has secured a supply of 45,000 men's 501s. It immediately claimed the moral high ground saying the price of some branded goods were often to high.

Tesco aims to bring the best products at unbeatable prices." Tesco director Simon Unwins said. "Unfortunately some brands try to restrict the market and force customers to pay

of styles at different prices. Mark Elliott at Levi's said: We are concerned to make the shopping environment as pleasant and appealing to customers

Levi's denied that it tried to control prices. "We absolutely have no desire to set retail prices. It's a matter for indisaid. However, it does have strict criteria which stockists must meet. These are that staff should be extensively trained in the subject of "jeanswear", that there should be a clearly delineated Levi's area and a range

criteria which stores must meet, and they [Tesco] didn't meet them." Tesos has only managed to secure a supply of men's button-up fly 501s in stonewash red,

as possible. There are objective black and yellow. It has paid the Tesco jeans and is investigating the matter. However, and they [Tesco] didn't meet still gives the supermarket a the company said it would conmark up of 15 per cent. Levi's

sider supplying Tesco if it mod-

image was involved. "We stock a wide variety of outlets, from department stores to mail order, all with a very different feel, because our customers want to shop in different environments.

But department stores have a in selling clothes. That's the environment we're looking for."

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opening date. Interest shown in grow. The interest rates quoted assume all the account terms and conducted from the interest at the appropriate ra not are regretated to recover interior grows as required by the Inland Resource. The product, being compared are National des CashBuilder at 4 10% gross p.a. and FESA. Alleance & Locenters Innant Assets at 2 70% gross p.a. British & West, TESSA PLUS Deposite Halifards 1755 Northern Rocks Deposis Instant Assess at 135% grass p. and Working by 1755A. Natural action SNAS New York Production SNAS New York Production of the Burking Product of Banking Product. National Snas New York Production SNAS New York Production of the Burking Product of

Doctors told not to impose Caesareans

capable of deciding against though her refusal might risk, rary mental incompetence her death or that of her unborn.

That ruling, by the Court of Appeal yesterday, makes it clear that a foctus has no greater rights than those of its mother and that the medical profession should only turn to the courts for permission to operate without consent where the woman lacks the capacity to de-

cide for herself. While Miss MB, the woman involved in the case, lost her appeal, the guidance was viewed as a potential brake on the eagerness of doctors to resort to the courts in the face of a woman's refusal to undergo an unwanted caesarean, and on the willingness of judges to authorise non-consensual surgery.

Future cases, however, will still turn heavily on whether individual women in the final stages of pregnancy are judged "competent" to withhold consent or not.

The judges were giving their reasons for deciding at a latenight emergency hearing five weeks ago that doctors could carry out necessary treatment, using any "reasonable force" necessary, on Miss MB, whose

position. Lady Justice Butlerand Ward decided against her on the facts of her case because n against her will if she she had refused at the last minute to have her baby by cacmedical intervention, even sarean when suffering tempo-

> caused by needle phobia. The fear of needles, which caused her to refuse an anaesthetic, dominated her thinking and made her incapable of making a decision, the judges

Beverley Lawrence Beech, chairman of the Association for Improvements in the Maternity Services, castigated a "gag-ging" order which bans identification of the hospital. health authority and doctors involved in the case as well as the mother and child. She said: Women need to know which hospital was involved, and which consultant,"

The appeal court, however, overruled two earlier statements by senior judges. Lord Donaldson, former Master of the Rolls, had been wrong to suggest in a 1992 case that the death of a viable foetus might be a valid consideration in deciding a dispute over medical treatment when this had never been sanctioned by Parliament and Sir Stephen Brown, the President of the Family Division. wrongly allowed "the interest of the foetus" to prevail in a later case the same year, they said,

Killer of hero in 1967 is jailed

Nicole Veash

A schizophrenic murderer who killed a man during a bungled bank robbery 30 years ago was yesterday sentenced at the Old

Unemployed Arthur Jackson was sent to the top security mental hospital Broadmoor

through the heart in 1967. The court heard that Jackson, 60, had shown no remorse over the death of Fletcher, who was posthumously awarded the George Cross. He denied murder but admitted manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

Years later, he confessed to the killing, while serving a jail term in the United States for attempted murder.

Mr Justice Potts told Jackson: A hospital order without restriction of time in your case is appropriate. I am satisfied that as a result of your mental illness you are an exceptionally dan-

Although Jackson will be de-tained in Broadmoor, he may be transferred to a hospital in his native Scotland in the future. Outside the court, Fletcher's

widow, Valerie, with her children Martin, 39, Tracy, 32, and Jason, 31, expressed deep disappointment at the sentence.

We thought we would come for shooting Anthony Fletcher here today to hear him told be would never see daylight again, she said. Her son, Jason, who was visibly angry at the outcome, said: "I wanted him to be told that he would be in jail for the rest of his natural life. Justice hasn't been done."

Orlando Pownall, for the Crown, said Jackson had shown no remorse for the shooting

In 1967, Jackson robbed the National Provincial Bank in Knightsbridge London and had escaped with £130 when Mr Fletcher, a self-employed contractor intervened. He chased the gunman up a cul-de-tac but as he approached Jackson shot him in the chest and he died almost immediately.

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news

This island race – in seven million snapshots





Past and Present: Wantage marketplace in Oxfordshire as it is today and as it was back in 1954. The Fifties scene is among the archives at the National Monuments Record Centre in Swindon, Wiltshire

Stephen Goodwin Heritage Correspondent

England's townscapes and countryside may be changing fast, but the coal mines, gas works, workaday farm buildings and parades of mundane shops swept away in recent decades have not disappeared without

Today one of the country's biggest archival resources emerges from obscurity with opening of a gallery and shop to publicise the treasures of the National Monuments Record

The NMR holds more than 7 million photographs, drawings and maps covering every aspect of the architecture and archaeology of England - all available to the public, though the centre in Swindon, Wilt-shire, had only 5,200 visitors last

It is the records arm of the Royal Commission on the His-torical Monuments of England, an £11m-a-year state-funded operation whose work belies the dusty image of its formal title.

Consider, for example, the physical transformation of large parts of Nottinghamshire, Huge archive of images of the English townscape and countryside emerges from obscurity



The archives show a view of Exeter (left) in 1942 and Sutton's seed shop in Reading in 1880

east - let aloue the social upheaval - caused by the closure of coal mines over the past

Pit-head gear and rail sidings

shape. Yet without the commission there would be no comprehensive picture of what has

Its specialists have recently have disappeared and slag completed a detailed photo-heaps have become grassy hill-graphic survey of not just the

South Yorkshire and the North-sides of suspiciously regular country's coal mines, but all the the surveying of non-conformist other buildings that went to make up the mining communi-- the National Union of Mineworkers' offices, welfare clubs, sports grounds, local

chapels, many of which have been turned into houses, and farm buildings. Most are unlisted and are often removed

Only the NMR pictures re-

terested local people of what a particular stretch of countryside actually looked like. A national survey of hospitals is also under way.

Planners and architects use the NMR to research vernacular building styles and archaeologists draw on its air photographs and site historical site details. Old maps and photographs are also used occasionally to settle boundary

None the less the NMR

believes many more people

would use the service if only

they knew about it.
The new gallery is intended to lift a corner on what is available. It will hold exhibitions of the cream of the 7 million photographs while further images can be studied on computer

Visitors will also be able to leave an inquiry to find out what the NMR holds on their town

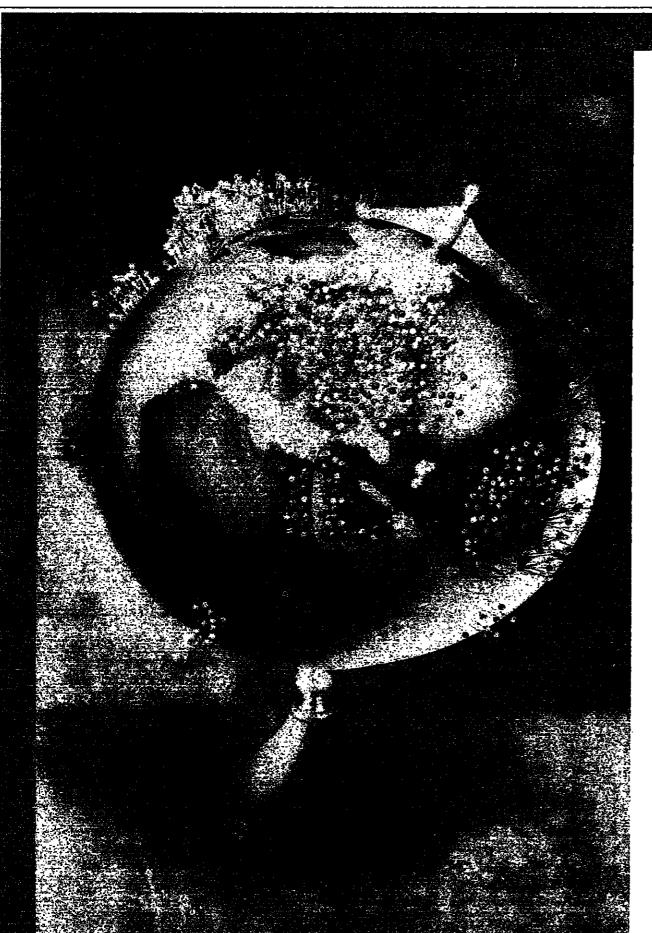
The gallery, along with the archive itself, is at the heart of exactly the type of much-changed industrial site that the commission has been keen to

It is housed in a building dating back to 1842 and designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel for the Great Western Railway.

What was once one of the greatest railway works in the country is now mainly devoted to the contemporary obsession

with shopping.

The national records centre is hoping that at least some of the 5 million people a year expected at the "Designer Outlet Village" will turn away from the smart shops long enough to discover something of Eng-



Five of the top oil and gas producers. Financial service leaders in 19 countries. What do they have in common? For one thing, success in brutally competitive fields. For another, 64-bit AlphaServer" systems from Digital. Pharmaceutical giant Rhône-Poulenc Rorer manages a 400-billion-character data warehouse with an AlphaServer 8400, delivering data to its sales force 30 days ahead of the competition. Sunoco in Canada depends on the speed and scalability of DIGITAL APPRASSET SYSTEMS. AlphaServer

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Hill House, Twickenham, which has recently been refurbished with damask curtains from a design at Hampton Court

Couch potatoes stir in pursuit of higher culture

Media Correspondent

The couch potato is a threatened species, because the British are becoming more cul-tured and more active.

We are reading books more, visiting the theatre and museums more and watching television less, according to the latest Cultural Trends study by the Policy Studies Institute.

Even the television we are watching is now less likely to be entertainment fodder than it was five years ago. The PSI finds there is now more current affairs and news on television than five years ago. Since the 1980s, people have

cut down on their television viewing. In 1985, people watched an average of 27.1 hours of television per week, but this has fallen to 25.2 hours. At the same time, 77 per cent of the population buys books - the ne figure as in 1990. But there has been a 2 per cent increase in the number of visits to libraries in the same period.

More than 26 million visits were made to national museums, a rise of more than 3.2 milBritish Museum, in London, which had more than 6 million

visitors in 1994/95. The study also shows more people are visiting theatre, opera and ballet productions. Almost 10 million people went to the theatre, 2.5 million attended the opera and 2.9 mil-

lion the ballet. However, the type of show at-tended is changing, despite the success of the Three Tenors and Nessun Dorma", attendances at classical concerts and performances of jazz and contemporary dance are down. Overall, the number of productions dropped between 1991 and 1995 throughout the UK, while shows like Riverdance - The Show, are successful enough to move from theatres to home

Our obsession with films continues and in the 11 years since the first multiplex opened, cinema attendances have increased by more than 70 per cent.

More than 80 per cent of homes have at least one video cassette recorder and, of the top 20 videos sold, 19 originated in

The leading rental video film

is Four Weddings and a Funer-al, closely followed by Patrick Swayze in Duty Dancing and the Sharon Stone vehicle, Busic Instinct. The power of children's tastes is shown by the animated films that are among the most popular bought for home: Disney's Jungle Book and its sta-blemates, The Lion King and

Fantasia . We have been reading a great deal about how the pressures of modern life have left many people with less free time and shortened attention spans," said Sara Selwood, a senior fellow of the Policy Studies Institute. "The evidence does not suggest, however, that the competing attention of rival media has led us to dumb down as a

Instead, people are interested in the quality of their leisure time and are finding many more ways to spend it than sitting at home watching

"This is particularly true for children and young people. whose interest in reading, film and museums have continued to grow, despite the popular view that they find such activities bor-

MPs slate punishing jail regime

Patricia Wynn Davies

Prison Service attempts at creating constructive regimes are being placed in jeopardy by rapidly spiralling numbers of inmates, an influential committee of MPs warned yesterday.

Imprisonment is "an extreme and expensive form of punishment which should be used as sparingly as possible", the allparty Commons home affairs select committee said.

If achievements were not to be lost, the incoming government after the election would have to make the rapid increase in prisoner numbers a priority issue, the MPs urged.

They suggested that some categories of offender should be diverted away from the prison system altogether, and called for a review of the extent to which mentally disordered people were being detained in fails instead of receiving the treatment they needed.

In a report distinctly at odds with the Government's preoccupation with punishment, the MPs praised the service's emphasis on decent conditions and purposeful activity for prisoners, but said the Government should go further and seriously consider allowing prisoners to earn the privilege of having televisions in their cells.

Only around 20 jails offer the facility, although not as a reg-ular feature of their regimes, and the idea has received a frosty reception by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary.

But the MPs insisted: "[Television can keep a prisoner occupied (sometimes purposefully, depending on the programme) ... this is an area to which the Government should give further consideration, given the potential of television in cells as a means of devoted to improving regimes contributing to good order in a are being squandered instead on prison; so long as the availability of television in this way is clearly an earned privilege rather than a right, it may be

that the public would not regard it as an excessive luxury for pris-

MPs said that rapidly increasing numbers of prisoners above forecast rates in recent months risked threatening the progress already achieved by the service, whose objective should be regimes which were secure but also "humane and decent fenders.

As at last Friday, the jail population in England and Wales stood at 59,530, a few hundred short of normal capacity and an increase of around 6,000 over the past 12 months.

We consider that the prevention of prison overcrowding must remain a major priority, the MPs said.

The situation is very finely balanced and could change over a short period - from being under control to giving real cause for concern if forecasts of required accommodation or if planned expansions in capacity are frustrated."

On the latter point, the report warns that the building of new jails planned to tackle the impact of tougher sentencing legislation now going through Parliament "may not be so easy" because of public objections to jails being built in their "backyard."

Paul Cavadino, chairman of the Penal Affairs Consortium, an alliance of 33 penal organisations, said the report underestimated the impact of the rising population and budget

He said: "In prisons through-out the country overcrowding is worsening, prisoners are being confined to their cells for longer periods and education is being severely cut

"Resources which should be coping with rising numbers by makeshift methods which range from prefabricated houseblocks to prison ships."



Arms and the Boy

By Wilfred Owen

Let the boy try along this bayonet-blade How cold steel is, and keen with hunger of blood; Blue with all malice, like a madman's flash; And thinly drawn with famishing for flesh.

Lend him to stroke these blind, blunt bullet-heads Which long to muzzle in the hearts of lads. Or give him cartridges of fine zinc teeth, Sharp with the sharpness of grief and death.

For his teeth seem for laughing round an apple. There lurk no claws behind his fingers supple; And God will grow no talons at his beek. Nor antiers through the thickness of his curis.

"Arms and the Boy", first published posthumously in 1920, appears in the Everyman's Poetry selection of work by Rupert Brooke and Wilfred Owen. The volume is edited - with notes. a critical introduction and chronology - by George Walter (Everyman/ J M Dent, £2).



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leasonal signature. A model sheltering beneath one of the designer Frederick Fox's new pastel-coloured straw autwheel hats in Cavendish Square, central London, yesterday

Photograph: Tony Buckingharm

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Elderly must pay cost of care, judge rules

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Charities warned of a return to the "Poor Law" as a judge ruled yesterday that hard-up councils can make pensioners

pay for care home accommodation until their assets run out. The decision, a second blow for the elderly, follows the House of Lords' ruling last week that local authorities can take into account the amount of resources the elderly and disabled have when providing community home care services

"The cold hard fact is this: Money has now become the overriding issue in the care of older people," said Michael Lake, director general of Help the Aged, which brought yesterday's test case against Selton Metropolitan Borough Council along with care home residents Cyril Pinch, 92, and Charlotte Blanchard, 86.

guidelines Government brought in last April say that however. Mr Pinch's place at

or less should be treated as "untion, but those with between £10,000 and £16,000 should contribute to the costs. People with above £16,000 must meet

the whole cost. Help the Aged complained that Sefton Council was un-lawfully expecting the elderly to make contributions to their care home until they were down to their last £1,500 - the cost of a funeral.

But the council argued that shortage of money from the Government meant it could not afford to fund the private residential and nursing home fees of those with assets. In a ruling which will affect

local authorities nationwide. Mr Justice Howett ruled that the authority was acting within its powers and was entitled to take into account its own resources when assessing needs.

He distinguished Mr Pinch's case from that of Mrs Blanchard

dale, Southport, had been funded from the start by the local authority and had only later been withdrawn when his capital went above £16,000.

When his care home bills again reduced his resources to below £10.000, the council had applied its £1.500 threshold policy and refused to make any further contributions. Mr Justice Howett said the council's stance in the case of Mr Pinch. a diabetic widower, had been "unlawful" and ordered it to re-

store the contributions. But Mrs Blanchard, who suffers from severe memory loss. had paid her own care home bills at the Warren Park Nursing Home, Blundellsands, Liverpool. When she sought a community care assessment. the council refused to help until her savings had fallen below £16,000. Yesterday the court ruled that the council had no duty to arrange accommodation

for her because they were en-

anning, Tessa Harding, said This judgment blows a hol through community care pol cy and makes government a surances to older peopl meaningless. It takes us straigl back to the Poor Law."

Jean Gould, project solicite for the Public Law Projewarned that the decision null fied last year's regulation "This ruling will mean that h cal authorities will be able : refuse to arrange to provide re idential care for the elder solely because they have a li tle money in the bank."

Sally Greengross, directof Age Concern England, sai The reality of this means th local authorities have an one door to avoid funding care f older people who have son savings or assets. The k vide all the services that old titled to take into account her people need."

Flagship East Coast line fails to run trains on time

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

fastest train line in Britain are not running on time, according

to leaked company figures. Great North Eastern Railay, which runs the high-speed link between London and Edinburgh, has previously trumneted a 3 per cent improvement in punctuality, but has yet to meet the demanding targets set out in the company's passenger charter.

The railway's internal "Team

performance as "disappointing" and says that in a "critical period" after Christmas, performance targets were met on

According to the briefing. engers waiting for a train on the high-speed line over a fourmonth period from October last year found that only 62.5 per cent of services ran on time.

But under the passenger charter - which allows season ticketholders to be able to claim refunds for poor performance - GNER is allowed to claim that services within 10 minutes of

are "on time". Even with the ex-sell-off, Passengers expect, a tra leeway. GNER did not meet ure entitled, to a better perfe its charter targets of 90 per cent. In the two months from

December last year, the company managed only 82.8 per cent under the passenger charter - which excludes delays caused by crime, vandalism and poor weather.

However, railway pressure groups said that the "flagship route should be delivering a premium service".

Jonathan Bray, a spokesman for Save Our Railways, said: "This railway benefited from their arrival or departure time £500m of investment prior to its

A GNER spokesmansaid t service had improved, addit "Under the industry measur performance has got better." the 12 months up to Mare GNER says that using the ch ter measure 89.9 per cent trains were on time - matchi

British Rail's performance. The company is also plann: to buy five new tilting trains increase joinery times and v overhaul all rolling stock t summer to improve train re

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Cantonese teaching to replace English

Hong Kong

Not only the British are leaving Hong Kong this year but the government plans to phase out teaching in the English language.

Remarkably, over 80 per cent of the colony's secondary schools claim

to use English as the medium of instruction. The problem is that many of the teachers are not proficient in English and lack the ability to conduct a lesson in the language.
"We understand," says Chong

Kwok-kit, the assistant director of edication, "that a lot of schools which claim to use the English medium are actually teaching in Chinese except hat they use English text books. Even exam papers are in Chinese or rilingual".

Although most children emerge rom these schools barely able to peak English, their parents appear o be convinced that they will only ne able to secure good career propects by attending English lan-nuage schools. Tik Chi-yuen, chairnan of the Home-School Cooperaion group, believes that parents of raif the children in English language chools would be inclined to withlraw their offspring if they move over

o the Chinese language medium. However, Mr Chong says that one if the aims of the switch is to improve inglish standards and provide more esources for English teaching. He ays: "A lot of research shows that nost students learn more effective-

with mother-tongue teaching".
As matters stand, schoolchildren are falling between two stools", says tod Pryde, the director of the British Souncil's English Language Centre. They are neither proficient in Engsh nor Chinese. He is a strong supelite possessed a high standard of omy gravitated towards the service proficiency. This has sparked a



Informed choice: Locals reading Caritonese language newspapers in Kowloon. The new education system will place more emphasis on the dialect Photograph: Tom Pilston

the standard of English in Hong Kong, as long as resources are pro-vided to support the teaching effort.

porter of reversion to mother-tongue teaching which he predicts will raise English language proficiency but it proved impossible to replicate this standard as the education system went through massive expansion. Moreover, the needs of the econo-

sector where English skills were in long debate about whether English high demand.

Mr Chong says the government keeps hearing complaints from employers about their inability to find

standards are falling. Examination results show this is not the case. Mr Pryde believes that the real issu great expansion of the population, bringing an inevitable dilution of Eng-

the dropping of English-medium pleasing the incoming Chinese administration. Mr Chong says this is not so. He says that plans for the switch have been underway for a

keen to make the change but were fearful of parental backlash if they proceeded alone.

Ironically, the first group to complain about the new policy was Chi-na's Preparatory Committee, which. not for the first time, was angered by a government decision taken without

China's blessing
The new system will place a firm emphasis on Cantonese, the local language, which China regards as a diguage, which China regards are supalect. In China, all schools are supposed to teach in Putonghua, the northern language, which is the na-tional language. Very few Hong Kong schools use Putonghua as the medium of instruction nor are there plans for them to do so. Language is a sensitive issue in Hong Kong because China seems to see the prevalence of Cantonese as part of a pro-cess of establishing a separate Hong Kong identity. Chinese fears are not without foundation, because the use of Cantonese and the development of a modern Cantonese culture have helped to foster a separate identity

in the colony.

Nevertheless, Hong Kong is anxious to maintain its position as an international business centre and those boping to benefit from this situation realise that they need to be equipped with English proficiency.

Mr Pryde says Hong Kong people have shown their commitment to ed-ucation and determination to reach targets established to improve English standards, Ironically, the scrapping of English-medium education might end up improving English standards as school students concentrate on learning English as a foreign language rather than frowning their way through lessons in English

Gore vows not to let gift | Family stakes its future on row sour ties with China colony's booming economy

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he investigation into alleged ilgal campaign contributions by hina would not derail imroved Sino-US relations, the merican Vice-President, Al fore, said yesterday. But he dded: "Should the allegations e proven to be true, then of ourse that would be a differnt matter. And I made it clear Winding up two days in eking, he continued to be

said it had not been discussed in vesterday's meeting with President Jiang Zemin, but had been raised by the Prime Minister, Li Peng, on Tuesday. "[Mr Li] repeated the strong denial by China that the allegations are true. I then said the US views these allegations as very scrious. However, they are the subject of an ongoing criminal investi-gation, within our Justice Department, and it is premature to of the investigation is.

Asked if his trip to China at ogged by the controversy. He this juncture would affect his

presumed front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2000, said: "That is for others to judge. I am not looking at it in that context."

The Washington Post has re-ported that the FBI told six members of Congress last year that they had been targeted by China to receive illegal campaign funds from foreign corporations.

to dwell on more positive aspects of his trip, the highest-level visit by a US politician since the 1989 Tiananmen massacre. Issues raised included arms proliferation, human rights, trade, Hong Kong and the environment. The trip was "proof posi-tive" of US commitment to a

working relationship with China. On human rights, Mr Gore said he noticed "a more receptive response' and a more "muted tone" than when previously discussing this topic. Cases of specific dissidents were raised by Mr Gore but he declined to give names. It has been speculated that Wang Dan, the former student leader senenced in October to 11 years in jail, may be paroled and alawed to leave for the US.

Given the furore in the US over possible Chinese campaign contributions. Peking may be willing to offer some humanrights or trade concession to



Al and Tipper Gore: Scandal over funds has dogged visit

Washington in the run-up to the ture to have invested their savannual debate on renewing China's most-favoured nation trading status. The next few months will also focus on preparing for Mr Jiang's summit in Washington with President Bill Clinton, expected in November. The US trade deficit with China - \$39.5bn last year -will feature prominently in relations this year.

Yesterday Mr Gore said he "did not pull any punches" in raising the "still serious and systemic obstacles to greater access for American companies" to the Chinese market.

Today Mr Gore and his wife, Tipper, are to fly to Xian to see the terracotta warriors. The Vice-President leaves China for Seoul tomorrow.

The day after the 1989 Tianan-men Square massacre, May Law, 35, a Hong Kong born Chinese marketing executive with a large American-based company, and the rest of her family, joined the queues out-side the Canadian consulate to apply for immigration visas. Of course we were motivated by all the unrest in China at the time," she says. Seven years on she feels very differently about

leaving Hong Kong. Last year she got married and this year gave birth to a baby girl. The family are determined to stay in Hong Kong and have sufficient confidence in the fuings in the territory. Next week they are moving into a new flat.

The incoming government needs to win the hearts and minds of people like May Law. people with the option of going. What she says is very much in line with findings of the opinion surveys recording growing con-fidence in Hong Kong's future.

Canada's ponderous immieration bureaucracy worked to May Law's advantage: "It gave us time to think, and now we see that things seem to have settled down." She observes the new government being put in place and the new order taking shape. "We know it's not going to be all wonderful and not very democratic but it's something we

Stephen Vines talks to an executive who has opted for life under Peking rule

involved in politics. I can't see the changes affecting our daily

She can see some benefits. She works for a company likely to be able expand its activi-ties. Her husband, a doctor, looks set to take in new patients from the Chinese mainland.

Not only are they staying taking a very big risk," she says, because all our money is tied up in property in Hong Kong. They have thought seriously about hedging their bets but de-

cided to stick with the market they know best and maintain investments they can manage themselves rather than rely on friends and services overseas. The decision to stay is influ-

enced by economics. "If the economy stays as good as it is, we'll be lucky," she says, "we shouldn't be too greedy to hope

for more." So what is the downside? Like most Hong Kong people, Ms Law is concerned about corruption. "I don't want us to become another Philippines. If we get that kind of reputation, foreign investors will lose confidence." However, she thinks that corruption is "something one lives with. I'm certain

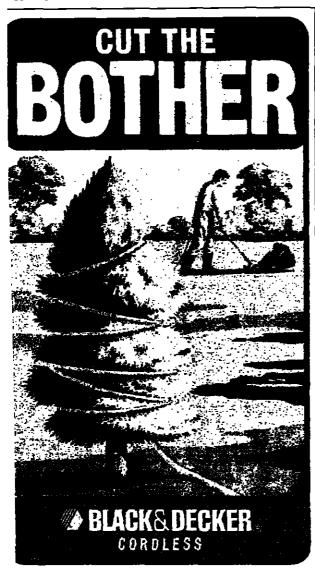
everywhere, even in England, but society can adjust to it. We Chinese are very adaptable.

Things may change in the way business is done but we will

adapt and thrive." It would take unrest on the scale of Hong Kong's 1960s nots to shake Ms Law's confidence in staying put. "If ever I find my but so is their money. "We're friends being jailed and not get society on the way down whereting a fair trial, that will really bother me," she says.

Originally she was not 100 keen on the idea of the colony reverting to Chinese rule. Now she feels differently. "Chinese people being ruled by Chinese people makes more sense than being ruled by the British," she says. "Even though the Chinese have proved not to be so great at government, we should give them a chance because they are of our own kind."

Moreover, she sees Hong Kong parting company with a as "we seem to be going with something on the way up".







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[هكذا من الأصل]

Papua PM forced to resign as army leader wins their battle of wits

Brigadier General Jerry Singirok has achieved what he set out to when he demanded that the Papua New Guinea Prime Minister, Sir Julius Chan, resign over the employment of mercenaries to solve the 11-year conflict on the island of Bougainville.

Yesterday, Sir Julius and two of his ministers - Deputy Prime Minister Chris Haiveta and Defence Minister Mathias Ijape stepped down to await the ontcome of the judicial inquiry into the Sandline contract. The chief executive of Sandline, Tim Spicer, has been subpoenaed to

give evidence at the inquiry. News of Sir Julius's departure was greeted with a huge roar of approval by thousands of protesters and soldiers loyal to General Singirok who were beleging the parliament building. As Sir Julius spoke, an army helicopter could be heard buzzing the building. Protesters cheered and lifted soldiers into the air. Dropping their chants of "Chan resign!", they began to sing the national anthem.

To many, the General is seen is a martyr, his stance one of



cern for the soldiers in his force (the PNGDF) and the "people of Papua New Guinea". But his past actions and early involve-ments suggest other motives. He was desperate for the capabil- of the special forces unit. ity and morale of his army to be improved. Poorly led, ill disciplined and suffering from a deep-seated malaise over the years of defeats by the rag-tag rebel army, the situation was

reaching crisis point.

Amnesty International had accused it of human rights abuses and with a general election. due, there was increasing pressure for the government to sort involvement in the contract, out the defence force and solve. His claim that he could not see

the Bougainville problèm. General Singirok's attempts to crush the rebel leadership were met by catastrophic faikure. Operation High Speed 2, designed to "decapitate the rebel leadership", was a disaster and resulted in the capture of five. PNGDF soldiers, who are still defence force. The \$7.5m spent being held by the rebels. Furthermore, the \$10m (£6.25m) months was less than he spent

dline contract) provoked a public outcry. When the military failed to justify the funds, the government appointed an audit team to investigate. It is yet to publish the results.

of Sandline puts General Sin-

girok into an increasingly diffi-

cult position with his own army.

Due to the shroud of secrecy

over the contract, there was and

still is a great deal of ignorance

of what part Sandline was to

play. Many assumed it was a simple "cash-for-hired-killer"

deal. Little mention was made

To many senior officers not

party to the details of the

arrangement, the employment

of Sandline signified a lack of

faith and commitment by the

government in their capability.

As commander of the de-

In short, the reputation of the General and the army was at its lowest ebb for years.

The first port of call for assistance was Papua New Guinea's of the equipment and training. old master and largest trading partner, Australia. But Canberra was rejuctant to get involved in what it saw as another Vietnam, and - with an eye on public opinion - would not have been happy working with an army with a poor record on human rights and discipline. With no other as-sistance forthcoming, Sir Julius claimed: "I had no choice but to go to the private sector."

Negotiations began with the London-based security company Sandline International last year in London, Hong Kong and Papua New Guinea. As the minutes and paperwork show, General Singirok was a principal negotiator from the start. When talks started to falter over funding, he made a personal representation to Sir Julius to endorse the contract.

Over Christmas and the new year, Mr Spicer completed a strategic assessment, development plan and strategy. It was on the basis of this and the past success of Sandline's sub-contractor, the South African-based Executive Outcomes, in assisting the peace process in Sierra Leone, that Sir Julius gave the deal the green light.

The three-month contract wa signed last January and was worth \$36m, of which 80 per cent was to be spent on equipment and weaponry for the PNGDF. Sandline's mandate was to provide specialist military training for counter-insurgency teams that would "harass the rebel patrols and deny them freedom of movement", a company spokesman said. Sandline personnel would also be placed within the command and control hierarchy

Three days before General Singirok's "address to the nation" that instigated the crisis in PNG, the first phase of the initial training package was complete. The reasons for the Gener-

al's voite-face on 17 March, when he turned on Sir Julius demanding that he quit and expel the mercenaries, are surprising considering his early involvement in the contract. such vast sums of money spent on mercenaries when the PNGDF was badly equipped and poorly paid, strikes hollow when his spending on previous operations is considered. Of the funds paid to Sandline, \$28.5m was spent on equipment for the on Sandline for the threeput aside for the week-long op- in a week during High Speed 2.

Galtieri faces life of an exile in his own land

Phil Davison Latin America Correspondent

chiefs he was amnestied by Leopoldo Galtieri, the Argentine military leader who invaded the Falkland Islands, is unlikely to serve time for his. part in the "dirty war" of the 1970s. But he appears con-demned to internal exile in Argentina for the rest of his years.

An international warrant for his arrest, for "creating a state of terror and genocide," was welcomed by most Argentines as at least a symbolic victory for human rights and for the relatives of tens of thousands of people "disappeared" by the military from 1976 to 1983. Although he has been granted annesty in Argentina, the warrunt means he could be arrest-

ed in any other country.

A Spanish judge, Baltasar
Garzon, ordered Gen Gattieri's arrest via Interpol over the dis-appearance of several hundred Spaniards in Argentina during the "dirty war." Specifically, Judge Garzon held him responsible for the deaths of Victer Labrador and his two sons

Gen Galtieri, 71, was army commander in Santa Fe province at the time. He led the military funta 1980-82; his in-

President Carlos Menem in 1989 under the Full-Stop Law", which absolved them of human-rights violations. Adolfo Perez Esquivel, who won the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize for his fight against the generals, said the warrant was a victory against impunity."

The Mothers of the Plaza de

vasion of the Falklands led to his

downfall. With other military

Mayo, who have fought for 20 years for news of their "disappeared" loved ones, also welcomed the news. "We think it's fantastic that the world is starting to prosecute these killers." said their leader, Hebe de

Bonafini. She said that her group planned to file charges in Italy soon against Pio Laghi, who was papal mincio in Argentina in the 1970s.

Gen Galtieri joins the former navy captain Affredo Astiz on the fist of Argentines wanted

Astiz known as "the Blond Angel", is wanted in France and Sweden in connection with the murder of citizens from those

countries.

He has been sentenced in communics.



ne news: Soldiers in Port Moresby yesterday celebrating after hearing of the cha

fence force, the General was aware of these problems. He was also aware of rumours that Sir Julius was looking to move deterioration of discipline and him from his position. After two morale in the army, Sir Julius

one of which was being investigated for financial irregulari-

fence force commander as a political liability. General Sin-girok was a symbol of what the PNGDF used to be, not what Sir Julius thought it was going

On seeing his position and Prime Minister, He capitalised status undermined and believ- on the general feeling of dising that he was about to be content in the army and gave his moved sideways. General Sin-girok managed in one deft their considerable frustration on



British arms help Jakarta fight war against its own people



Sue Lloyd-Roberts, BBC Special Correspondent, exposes the trade that gives the Indonesian regime the muscle to clamp down on dissent

In April 1996, the students of the University of Ujung Pandang in South Sulawesi, one of 3,000 islands that make up Indonesia, demonstrated against a 67 per cent increuse in transport costs. Many live 10 miles or more from the city and the increase threatened to curtail their university careers, "It was a peaceful demonstration of a practical, non-political nature", recalls Ardilo, "We could hardly believe it when the army intervened, it was like they had declared war." They drove British-made armoured personnel carriers armed with guns onto the campus, the guns were fired and three students were killed in the ensuring panic.

Forty days later, on the day of mourning dictated by Islam. students from the University of Bandung in Java commemorated the deaths of their colleagues in Ujung Pandang. This time the paramilitary police drove British-made armoured water cannon onto the campus and sprayed the students with an ammonia solution. The water cannon were part of batch of nine exported to Indonesia in 1995. Dozens of students suffered skin burns.

The students say they envy Britain's reputation for democratic values and human rights. "I do not believe that Western countries, like Britain, supply these weapons to be used against the people", says Subido, a student injured in the Bandung demonstration. "I am sure the Indonesian Government told the British they would use them only for the defence

of Indonesia" The Stop Arms to Indonesia Campaign this week failed in their bid in the High Court to force a judicial review in UK arms sales to Indonesia. Mr Justice Laws never questioned the

tled in the courts. The campaigners are angry. "It means there is no means in this country to challenge a government that sends arms to repressive regimes," says Carmel Budiardjo of Tapol, the Indonesian

Human Rights campaign. The Government says it adheres strictly to the criteria laid down by the DTI on arms export controls, and that in issuing licenses. it "avoids contributing to internal repression and instability within the country of destination and avoids contributing to human rights abuses".

The arms campaigners argue that the Government position is riddled with casuistry and contradiction. On 27 July last year there was the worst rioting in Jakarta for over 20 years when Government forces stormed the party headquarters of the PDI one of two opposition parties, led by Megawati Sukarnoputri, daughter of the Indonesian's first post independence president.

While police viciously beat PDI supporters. British-built



higher. These new deaths bring

to well over 200,000 the num-

ber of Timorese killed since In-

donesia invaded East Timor in

1975 - a third of the population.

the British Aerospace Hawk

fighter plane has become a

symbol of the worse excesses

carried out on the island. Ko-

nis Santana, leader of the East

Timorese resistance army.

claims British planes were re-

sponsible for killing hundreds in

bombing raids carried out against villages which support-ed them in the late Seventies

and Eighties. Mr Santana be-

lieves that "the war in East Tun-

or would have taken another

course if the Indonesians had

not received military support

Among the East Timorese.

British-made water cannon

of last year, the Government announced new export licences for weapons to Indonesia, including more than 300 armoured cars and water cannon.

Indonesian police are introwater cannon sprayed the duced to the latest in British riot demonstrators with pink dye, so control equipment when they

hardware, including the British imports, on the streets of Jakarta in February this year, one of the government-controlled newspapers reported that

public meetings during these elections, in which the opposition parties are strictly con-

Reports of heavy-handed tactics used by security forces in the rest of Indonesia are nothing compared to the treatment meted out to occupied East Timor. At the weekend, two protesters were killed, dozens were injured and 60 arrested in the capital, Dili, for attempting

These figures are the official legal issue, and cannot be set-strations, that is of course totally play of Indonesian military ones: the reality is likely to be

Photograph: Sue Lloyd-Roberts

Hawks that Great Britain of

fered during the crucial period

force no longer uses British jet fighters for bombing missions.

but for intimidation, because the

Hawks killed so many people

in bombing attacks in 1978 and

1979 that today, whenever peo-

ple hear the noise of the Hawks

flying, they are scared and the

authorities know they will not

dare leave their homes."

Defeated in the High Court

this week, the arms campaign-

ers are now arguing for a

Sue Lloyd-Roberts' report

on British arms sales to In-

donesia can be seen on News-

night tonight at 10.30pm on

change in the law.

He says the Indonesian air

after the invasion.

significant shorts

Stalin finds favour in former Soviet republic

President Alexander Lukashenko of moved further to tighten his rule in this former Soviet republic and said people were asking him to introduce a dictatorship similar to Stalin's. "People are saying: 'Give us Stalin's times'," he said in a television broadcast. Having already restored Soviet symbols, he promised to revive the Soviet tradition of subbotniks - unpaid mandatory labour on weekends. Letters, page 19 mostly in street cleaning.

Israel likened to apartheid SA

The UN investigator on torture likened Israel to South Africa under apartheid and accused it of institutionalising Arrica under apartnett and accused a or institutional torture in interrogating Palestinian detainets. Nigel Rodley, a British lawyer who serves as UN special rapporteur on torture, issued his annual report listing 29 countries where torture was fairly extensive. They included Alasria Bahraia Burga China India Indonesia Irun Algeria, Bahrain, Burma, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russia, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Turkey.

Oz's exclusive new party

The politician Pauline Hanson, who created a storm last year with attacks on Asian immigration and Aberiginal welfare, is forming her own party, called "Pauline Hanson's One Nation". Her choice of the name "One Nation" was derided. "Well, at least it wasn't Ein Reich." said the Labor leader, Kim Beazley. "So we have got to be grateful for small mercies."

Beady look at diabetes

People with diabetes might be able to take insulin in pills rather than shots, using an approach in which the drug is put into tiny plastic beads, a study in mice suggests. The approach might also help scientists plant genes in people to treat disease, researchers said. Normally, insulin taken by mouth would be destroyed by digestive juices and not absorbed by the intestine. The mouse experiments used plastic beads smaller than the width of a human hair. The beads protected the insulin and delivered it to the bloodstream. The insulin escaped as the plastic

Property boom

A US property company is to invest \$100m (£62m) in a project to build a mini-suburb outside Moscow, a breakthrough in a city dominated by grim apartment buildings. It is seen as a sign of improving Western confidence in the Moscow market.

New species trots out

A so-called lost world on the border between Vietnam and Laos has yielded another new species of animal. This one a primitive pig, Sus bucculentus, which was only distantly related to other pigs in the region, said Colin Grove of the Australian National University in Canberra.

€ Among the East Timorese the Hawk fighter plane has become a symbol of the worst excesses

that they could later be traced and punished. The riots left at least five dead. 149 injured, and 248 were arrested.

When Labour MP Ann Clwyd challenged the Government on the use of British weapons to put down prodemocracy supporters in Indonesia. Jeremy Hanley, is used to stop peaceful demon-

come to the UK for training. Hundreds of Indonesian police officers have been trained at Bramshill Police College on a programme paid for with aid money from the Overseas De-

velopment Administration. Indonesia is apparently counting on British-made water cannon and armoured personfect on the electorate who go to the polls on 29 May. After a dis-

"troops, supported by scores of armoured vehicles and Britishmade Scorpion tanks. helicopters, motorcycles and other vehicles will assure security and order during the elections in the Greater Jakarta area." There are to be no rallies or

trolled by the Government. With the memory of last July still vivid, neither opposition party is expected to misbehave.

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و سعندا من الآصل ا

PLO turn backs on American mediation

Patrick Cockburn Jerusalem

As the United States begins to mediate between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, Dennis Ross, the US chief negotiator, is to see Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, in Morroco today and then fly on to Israel to see Benjamin Netanyahu, the

Prime Minister. Palestinian leaders fear Mr Ross will try to put pressure on Hamas, the Islamic militant organisation, following last week's suicide bombing, without getting Israel to stop building at Har Homa, the new Jewish settlement in Jerusalem, called Jabal Ahu Ghneim by Palestinians.

Saeb Erekat, a top Palestinian negotiator, said: "If he [Mr Ross] is coming to practice his usual habit of arranging a high level meeting. I predict the failure of his mission."



Dennis Ross: Blamed for

Marwan Barghouti, the leader of Fatah, Mr Arafat's political movement, on the West Bank, added that Mr Ross should not come if he was going to put pressure on Mr Arafat to crack down ou Palestinians while the bulldozers will continue." He predicted more suicide attacks.

Mr Netanyahu is hoping to win American support, despite Washington's anger over his decision to build at Har Homa, them to arrest members of by insisting that Mr Arafat "gave the green light" for last Friday's suicide bomb. Gen Amon Lipkin-Shahak,

the Israeli chief of staff, also insists Mr Arafat covertly gave the signal to Hamas, though he ad-mits Israel does not know for certain who was behind the attack which killed three women and injured 61 people.

The crisis has boosted the much talked of option of Mr Netanyahu forming a national unity government with Labour. Shimon Peres, the former prime minister defeated last year, favours the idea, but it is re-garded with scepticism by Ehud Barak; likely to be Labour's next leader. Although the idea is backed by the US, Mr Netanyahu has probably not decided to try a coalition, but finds threaten dissident members of his cabinet and his own party.

It is not clear how Mr Ross will proceed in his mediation. By going on an extended political tour during the present fering to make only a limited crisis, Mr Arafat has signalled withdrawal on the West Bank.



المكذامن الأصل

Wounded: A Palestinian carrying a boy hurt in clashes with Israeli soldiers in Ramallah yesterday

that he feels he is in a strong po-sition. The US State Department apparently had difficulty locating him in Bangladesh in order to arrange his meeting with Mr Ross in Rabat today.

Dr Khalil Shikaki, a leading it a useful stick with which to Palestinian political scientist. says Mr Ross and his team were responsible for the vagueness of the Hebron accord in January, which led to Israel building at Har Homa and to offering to make only a limited

Mr Netanyahu says the real struggle is not over Har Homa but over the existence of Israel. "The real struggle that is aimed against us is not about Har Homa, but about our sovereignty in Jerusalem, and, in the end, about our sovereignty in Jaffa and Ramat Aviv," he said.

Although the government is not directly accusing Mr Arafat of knowing about the suicide bomb, the allegations sound increasingly like those made before the Oslo accords in 1993.

Moshe Peled, the Deputy Education Minister, says Israeli intelligence has evidence that Mr Arafat had prior knowledge of the bomb attack on the World Trade Center in New York four years ago. "More than that, he was part of the discussions on the operation," says Mr Peled. "I call on the prime minister to give the information to the Americans, so they'll

know who they're dealing with." There are signs that the US has moved towards the Israeli position that Mr Arafat gave the green light for the suicide attack. although in practice, the accu-sation is rather that he did not take measures to prevent it. There were sporadic stone-

throwings by Palestinians on the West Bank yesterday in Hebron, Bethlehem and Ramaliah. But the next test of strength will be pistol and showed it to them. | last month, they said they asked ["going home in chains"

on Sunday when Palestinians hold an annual day of demonstrations called "Land Day" to commemorate the shooting dead of six Israeli Arabs by Israeli border police in 1976 and to protest against Israeli land confiscations. Fatah leaders insist Palestinian anger over Har Homa is so strong that it would be impossible for Mr Arafat to stop demonstrations or crack

Colombo (AP) - Mr Arafat surprised his Sri Lankan hosts at a state banquet by pulling out his pistol. While chatting with President Chandrika Ku-maratunga, a leader of a former Tamil rebel group jocularly asked the Palestinian leader. "Do you still carry a pistol as you did when you went to the UN? A grinning Arafat pulled out a

down on Hamas.

Bonn forces Bosnians to return home

Stacy Sullivan

Shrugging off protest from human rights groups. German officials said vesterday that they

would step up expulsions of Bosnian refugees. Until now, less than 100 adults, childless couples and criminals have been sent back to former Yugoslavia, but "Phase 2" of the repatriation is

about to begin. On 1 May the authorities will start deporting about 100,000 of 315,000 refugees in Germany. "Those who do not leave voluntarily must reckon with being sent by force, said Gerhard GIogowski, interior minister of

Lower Saxony vesterday.
On Tuesday, Germany deported 41 Bosnians, Though several on the plane were convicted criminals, most were ordinary people who fled the war in Bosnia. Many were crying as they stepped off the chartered

plane at Sarajevo airport.

Jusuf and Sadbera Nukic were sound asleep in their room in a German boarding house in Altorring on Tuesday morning when the police pounded on the door and told them they had 15 minutes to pack before being deported to their native Bosnia. They came in and yelled Raus. you must leave now. said Mrs Nukic who passed out from fear.

Given Germany's history and he fact that it is still unsafe for many of the refugees to return o Bosnia, few thought that the Germans would make good on heir threats.

Mrs Nukic, who still had her vjamas on underneath her clothes, broke down as she entered Sarajevo airport. "Where

will we go now?" she asked.

The Nukics are Muslims from Janja, a village now in Serb-held territory. They were expelled by Bosnian Serbs in September 1994 after managing area run by the Muslim gov-to survive in Serb-held territo-ernment. "Sending them back ry for more than two years. The couple went to Germany to join ethnic cleansing." Mr Zulch their son and daughter who had says. Up to 30,000 refugees fled two years earlier. When have returned voluntarily, but their residence papers expired many did so out of fear of

the German authorities what they should do and were told to wait. "We told them that if we had a place to got back to, we would go back on our own, but we don't have a place to go, said Mr Nukic.

The Nukics' chances of ever going back to Janja are slim. Since the Dayton peace treaty was signed in November 1996, more Muslims and Croats have been expelled from Serb territory than have returned.

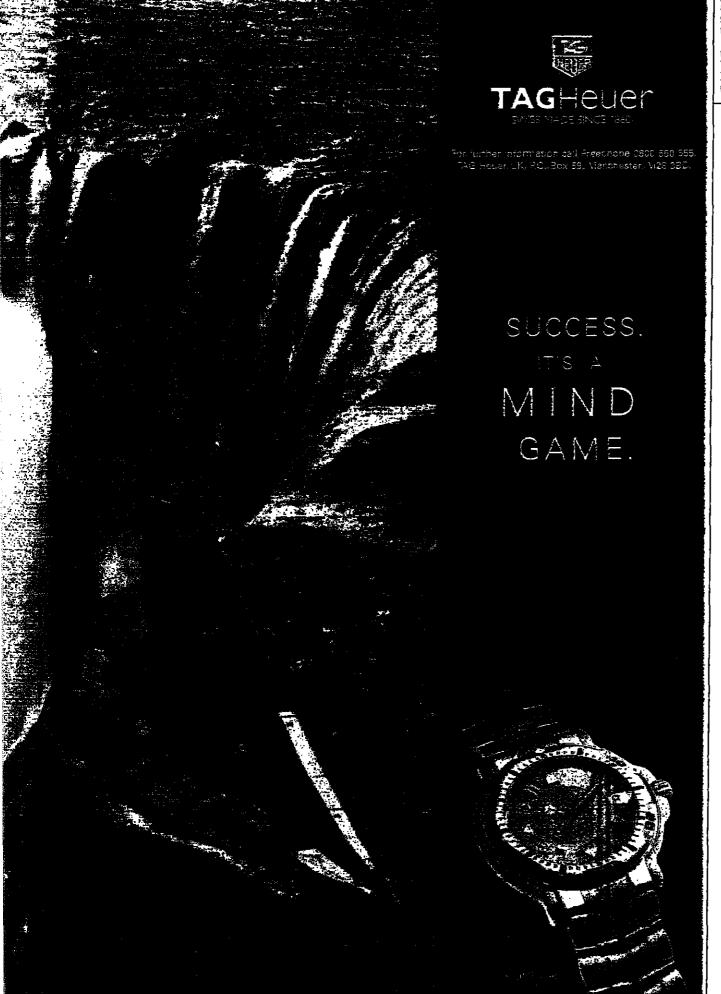
Officials from the UN High Commission for Refugees in Sarajevo were furious. "A deportation of Muslims from Republika Srpska [the Bosnian Serb entity who have nowhere to go is the worst kind of deportation that there is," said Kris Janowski, a UNHCR spokesman.

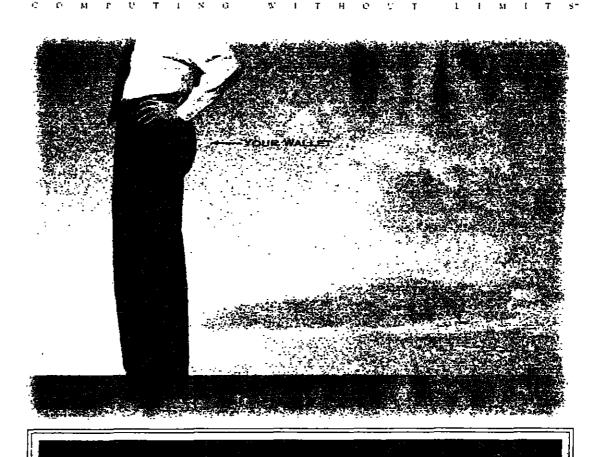
"We have asked the German government to continue to

6 Sending them back means Germany has accepted ethnic cleansing 9

provide temporary protection to this group of people, but apparently they have not listened. Human rights groups and Germany's Green party accuse officials of "heartlessness". Tilman Zulch, head of the German section of the Society for Threatened Peoples, says only about 15 per cent of the refugees in Germany have

somewhere to go. Many have no home to return to, and their homeland has fallen into the hands of a hostile ethnic authority. Muslims whose villages are now under Croat or Serbian control are forced to find shelter in an





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Turkish taunt to EU enrages allies in Bonn

Europe Editor

The European Union's relations with Turkey plunged into fresh trouble vesterday after an almost farcical diplomatic row between Germany and Turkey over a perceived Turkish insult

Turkey's Islamist Prime Minister. Necmettin Erbakan, told members of his ruling Welfare Party on Tuesday that EU leaders should "bow their heads" when visiting Turkey because of their failure to implement in full the terms of an EU-Turkish

customs accord. The remark infuriated Germany's Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel, who was about to fly to Ankara to improve EU-Turkish relations. After coming close to cancelling his trip, he finally set off from Rome two hours late on Tuesday evening.

Speaking to German reporters in Ankara yesterday morning, Mr Kinkel could not have made it plainer that Mr Erbakan's comments still rankled. "No European will have to bow their head to Turkey in shame."

The decline in EU-Turkish relations this year owes its origins partly to growing Turkish indignation about the EU's failure to carry out all aspects of the customs agreement, which came into effect last year. Millions of pounds in EU aid to Turkey, designed to help it overcome the initial effects of

ditional rival, which shows no sign of relaxing its stance.

Turkey's hackles were also raised by a recent suggestion from the leaders of several EU Christian Democrat parties that, as an Islamic country, Turkey should never be allowed into the EU. For their part, some European governments were annoyed by Turkey's threat to block Nato expansion into Central Europe unless Turkey got its way on EU mcm-

bership. The row between Mr Kinkel and Mr Erbakan was a measure of how hadly frayed EU-Turkish relations have become, since the German minister would normally be counted among those keen to cultivate closer ties. Even after yesterday's dispute, he was at pains to say: Turkey belongs to Europe. The Turkish train remains on the main track, it will not be put on the side track."

However, he said human rights abuses, the Kurdish civil war in south-east Turkey and tensions in the Turkish-Greek relationship meant Turkey was ot yet a suitable candidate for EU membership.

These difficulties, coupled with Turkey's large, expanding population and relative economic underdevelopment. make it likely that former Communist states, such as the Czech Republic and Poland, will join the EU before Turkey, although the Turks have been associate the customs union, have been. EU members since 1963.

EU have often seemed shaped by a desire less to join the club than to damn it as the bane of Turkish life. Before taking office last year as prime minister, he denounced the EU customs union as a form of "slavery to the Christian establishment". His Foreign Minister, Tansu Ciller, of the conservative True

Path party, is far more pro-European. But differences of style and political opinion between Mr Erbakan and Mrs Ciller have not improved the coherence of Turkish foreign policy. German views on Turkey are influenced by the presence of 2 million Turks in Germany at a

time when unemployment is at its highest level since the 1930s. Few politicians wish to court voters' wrath by supporting tunity for millions more Turks to seek jobs in Germany.



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Yeltsin tries to check tide of discontent as strikes loom

Phil Reeves Moscow

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Boris Yeltsin and his new government vesterday mounted an eleventh-hour attempt to soothe a discontented population in the hope of dampening down the impact of a wave of strikes and demonstrations which are planned across Russia today.

The triad which now heads the reshuffled government - the Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, and his youthful new deputies. Anatoly Chubais and Boris Nemtsov - chose the eveof the one-day national strike to reassure the public that their myriad economic problems will

he tackled. In particular, Mr Cher-nonwrdin pledged that a start would be made in settling billions of dollars worth of wages and pensions arrears - one of the country's deepest sources of anger and division, and the driving force behind today's industrial action.

alone, 16,000 police, including riot squads, will be deployed 9

Mr Yeltsin, a veteran political stuntman, weighed in with a nationwide radio address defending his performance at last week's Helsinki summit, which has been criticised as a sell-out by his Communist and nationalist foes. In a separate move, he also announced that he will take personal charge of reforming Russia's armed forces.

And he fired off a blatantly populist decree banning government workers from using foreign cars for official business. Even the Kremlin's fattest cuts will be forced to auction off their beloved Mercedes and BMWs and replace them with Russianproduced vehicles, setting the stage for a return to the black Zils and Volgos which swept party apparatchiks around Moscow

during the Soviet era. Mass strikes in Russia tend to produce unwarranted alarmist warnings of unrest, but yesterday's theatrical flurry by the leadership suggests that the Kremlin is concerned about today's events. Trade union

leaders claim that up to 20 million people will go on strike at almost 30,000 different enterprises, ranging from heavy industrial plants to coal mines. In Moscow alone, where several large protests are planned, the city authorities say 16,000 police will be on the streets, including riot squads. Yesterday, Mr Chemomyrdin

underlined the mood of general unease by issuing an appeal for calm, which he combined with an attempt to assure the world that his new administration is a caring, sharing one, which is deeply concerned about the long-suffering Russian public and its unpaid wages.

"We see this problem, we feel and understand this problem," he said, before urging people not to get "carried away by emotion and provocations". He continued: "You see, there exist forces that want to rock the boat, that want to use this normal action ... to aggravate the situation in the country. I can say once again that nobody will benefit from this."

Certainly, most Russians have good reason for outrage. The country's wage and pension arrears have risen to \$8.8bn (£5.5bn); factories across the tration's 11 time zones stand idle and often derelict; millions have scen their savings wiped out by inflation or fraudulent pyramid investment schemes; health and education services have been collapsing steadily since Russia first embarked on reforms in 1992, while other social blights - from disease to corruption and crime - have been multiplying. Today, the government will be hoping that apathy and cold weather will help stifle many of the cries of anguish. In much of Russia, the idea of going on strike is considered pointless as many of the industries are already at a standstill.

But Mr Chernomyrdin and his free-marketeers also have more concrete solutions to Russia's economic crisis. Yesterday, the Prime Minister reeled off a list of planned reforms including overhauling the tax code, regulating national mo-nopolies, and reforming key areas of the benefits system, notably housing, pensions and utilities.

The proposals depend ultimately on Russia's ability to raise its revenues, notably tax, and to cut its spending. Both measures are scarcely likely to improve the public mood, at least, not in the short term.

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Worn down by horrors of war, the children of Rwanda's exodus head home to face new perils





No turning back for Red Cross orphans

Ed O'Loughlin Goma, Zaire

John Bosco Gashumba climbed down from the twin-engined United Nations cargo aircraft. its hold crammed with ragged children, and surveyed the scene around him. To the north. the stark volcanic cone of Nyiragongo loomed over Goma. To the east was the dim ridge marking the Rwandan border.

"This trip was useless," he remarked. "We walked 600km and now we are back."

gali's Red Cross orphanage. at Ubundu, trapped against the aged between three and 15 unfordable Zaire river, include ears, the return to Rwanda's frontier last week marked the the former Rwandan governend of one ordeal, and possibly the beginning of another.

Having stuck with their charges through three years of war, famine and epidemic, footsore from fleeing 380 miles in four months, Mr Gashumba, a headmaster, and his 10 staff must now lead them into a new and potentially hostile Rwanda. But in a region where humanity has become hopelessly devalued, their story of compassion and dedication also gives

ground for hope.
"A lot of us only survived because we had our monitors with us," one 16-year-old boy told journalists. "They sold their shoes so we could eat."

It is nearly three years since the Rwandan civil war pan-icked the orphanage staff into adding their children to the hundreds of thousands of Rwandans - among them the Hutu perpetrators of the 1994 anti-Tutsi genocide - fleeing into neighbouring Zaire. Then, in October of last year,

the fighting caught up with them again. As rebels from the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire moved into the town of Bukavu, most of the Rwandan refugees there took to the road again, this time heading north and west into the heart of Zaire. Fleeing through towns al-

ready looted by the handits of the Zairean Armed Forces (FAZ), the orphans were forced to live off what they could find. There was no help from the ravaged Zairean population or from their fellow countrymen in the former Rwandan Hutu army and extremist Interahamwe Hutu militia.

Yet by late February, when they came to a halt at the town of Kindu, the orphanage had lost only eight children to hunger and disease. Journalists and aid workers who reached Kindu after it was taken by rebels remarked that many of the orphans were in better shape than refugee children who re-mained with their parents.

Felicien Kaite Kayigi, one of the orphanage staff, said his colleagues regarded the children as their own.

"We told them that if you have to die of hunger, then we die from hunger as well," he

The orphans were among the first trickle of Rwandan refugees to be repatriated by air last week, following the rebel capture of the government stronghold of Kisangani. Unable to gain access to the main concentration of approximately

100,000 refugees, still just beyond the rebel lines at Ubundu, the United High Commissioner for Refugees has begun Zaire for smaller groups and evacuating the more vulnerable

are ruled out by the difficulty of the terrain, which makes vehicle traffic difficult, and - many aid operations to impede their ongoing advance.

and now we are back." According to rebel leader, For the 186 children of Ki-Laurent Kabila, the refugees unfordable Zaire river, include many armed soldiers of ment and armed members of the genocidal Interahamwe militia.

Unable to return to Rwanda for fear of retribution from their country's Tutsi-dominated government - a strong supporter of the rebel movement - these are reported to have herded many ordinary civilians with them. Aid workers in Goma fear that a rebel assault on Ubundu, which Kabila has not ruled out, could result in massacres or panic many refugees into attempting to cross the river.

The chief of the UNHCR's Goma delegation. Craig Sanders, said that the miscrable state of the refugees now behind the rebel lines raised fears for

the people at Ubundu.
"There is malnutrition taking

6 Thousands of children are in Rwandan jails awaiting trial for suspected genocide 🤊

its toll and coming with that they are being hit by diseases they would normally recover from. like malaria and diarrhoea, even simple foot wounds that will not heal."

Although spared any further horrors of war, the Red Cross children are now returning into a potentially hostile political environment. The authorities in Kigali regard with great suspicion any refugees who failed to return from Zaire until forced to do so by the recent rebel

Aid workers say that last week's mercy flights were refused permission to fly directly to Kigali and instead were or-dered to unload the children at Goma, on Zaire's border with

Although the orphanage says that its charges include several children from the Tutsi minority whom it sheltered from the 1994 genocide, a rebel official who travelled with the flight told journalists that all would have to be interrogated after they crossed into Rwanda.

Thousands of children are among the 90,000 suspected "genocidaires" who are still awaiting trail in Rwanda's horrifically overcrowded jails.

Bertold Hornung

"Make traffic fit the city, not the city fit the traffic." Bertold Hormany adherents. A generation ago, when he arrived in the United Kingdom, it bemused, even affronted, more orthodox professionals. But, when it came to constructively deconstructing Hana was working in an Amerbureaucracy, Hornung had been ican film; Bertie's metro tunnels schooled in the best academy in the world, Central Europe. With wicked humour, twinkling eyes, and clear thinking, he was an insoirational figure.

He was born into a multilingual Jewish family in the Moravian town of Ostrava in 1925. The Nazis cut short his education. Forced to leave school before he was 14, he was sent to Prague in the hope of a place on the Kindertransport. But he stayed in Prague, and learned carpentry skills. He ended the Second World War amidst the horrors of Terezin but alive, saved by the craft he could bring to a work gang. Thereafter his home always contained elegant furniture that he had designed and built himself to a standard of which a master carpenter would have been proud.

By 1950 he had graduated as Ing Arch from the Czech Technical University. He married practised his profession, working on a landscape plan for Southern Bohemia, local development plans in Prague and master-planning industrial cities. Then he wrote a letter of protest about show trials. In 1957 he was declared a dangerous person. The judgement was accurate - his intelligence, jokes and humanity were the antithesis of the apparatchik state. He was redeployed to Eastern Slovakia, where his talents were needed to design pigsties. Many suffered similar fates;

each had to find their own adjustment to what Václav Havel called "this system of existential pressure". Characteristically, Bertie Hornung en-gaged with his professionalism and rich sense of irony. He entered an anonymous competition for the design of a new town, and won. The prize was to lead the planning of the town, albeit within the strict confines of centrally determined densities and building types. Even here he was able to inject imagination into layouts.

Winning another competition took him back to Prague in 1965, to head the planning of the Metro, and to cross swords with the Russian engineers providing fraternal assistance. In-

nung's pithy dictum now has strated how intelligent design could respect the rich legacy of Prague's historic street patterns and open space networks.

The Soviet tanks came before

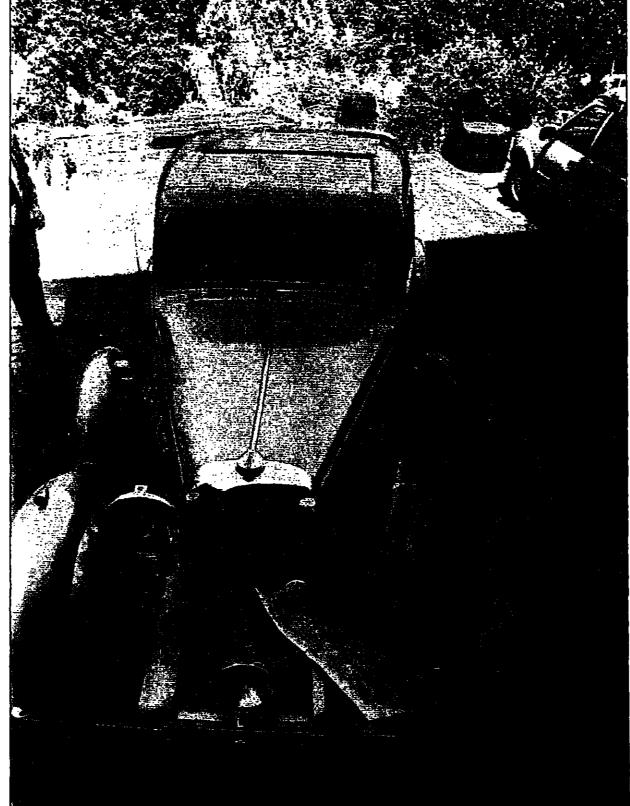
the Metro, in August 1968. ican film; Bertie's metro tunnels had been 20cm too small to fit the Russian trains. In the chaos of 21 August Hornung went to the Director's room at the office, found exit certificates and, as there was nobody there to sign them, signed them himself.
The Hornungs packed a few bags into their car, and with their two young daughters set off, telling their neighbours they were out for a five a piccio they were out for a for a picnic. They forgot to mention that the picnic was in Vienna. The family was soon in Ed-

inburgh, the only British city that could echo the townscape of Prague. In 1965 Edinburgh's Development Plan had proposed construction of an inner ring road. There had been no cost-benefit analysis and no integration with land use, parking or public transport. After a long and acrimonious public inquiry, in 1969 Colin Buchanan and Partners were appointed plan-Hana Mautner, a wonderful support and foil to his wit. He ing the team, to work alongside the transport consultants, Free-man Fox, Wilbur Smith and As-sociates. Through Hornung's determined and imaginative advocacy, the balance was decisively shifted towards bus priority, pedestrianisation and traffic restraint, reducing the scale of road developments.

> In 1972 he led the team (funded in part by the British Council) replanning Jerusalem. and then in 1976 took responsibility for the preparation of the Lothian Region Structure Plan. He brought a capacity for strategic thinking and a grasp of the relations between land use and transport for which there were few equals or precedents. Under Hornung Lothian produced Scotland's first Structure Plan, and with a full and open process of public consultation.

While holding this senior position in Lothian Region, Hornung attended evening classes at the Edinburgh College of Art to gain the award of the Diploma in Town and Country Planning. He became a Chartered Town Planner on his election to membership of the

Royal Town Planning Institute. He retired in 1983 after a heart attack. Retirement inplanning consultant, serving as recognised by the award of an



Hornung (right) and Pip Hills set off for Prague in a 1930s Lagonda, 1990; Hornung advised the Czech government on their planning system

a professional adviser to the Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland and teaching planning students at Edinburgh College of Art/Heriot-Watt University. During the Prague Spring he had been a highly regarded part-time teacher at the Czech Technical University. In Edinburgh he was loved by his students: he not only helped to make them effective professional planners, but also educated them in life itself. It was fitting that in July volved regular employment as a 1996 his life achievements were

Honorary DLitt from Heriot-Watt University.

The Velvet Revolution allowed him to revisit his beloved Prague, where his professional reputation had endured. The new government sought his advice on how to restructure their planning system. He organised mid-career training sessions for Prague City Council, and worked with the Czech Technical University training planners from smaller towns

Hornung was steeped in a deep understanding of Czech

urbanism and design. It all came together in a magnificent exhibition which he organised about Prague, which ran in Edinburgh's City Arts Centre in

the winter of 1994-95. To the last he remained an incisive wit and thinker. When presented with a draft report and told that all that now needed doing was "dotting the i's and crossing the t's", he scanned it, shook his head and said: "I think we'll need to be crossing the eyes and drinking the teas." "Like any other weed it is dif-

ficult to get rid of me once and forever," Bertie Hornung wrote to me a few weeks ago, explaining that he had had "a rather bad patch of heart trouble with complications". The achievements and the spirit of this weed will be around for a long time yet.

Bertold Hornung, planner and ar-chitect: born Ostrava, Moravia 25 March 1925; married 1948 Hana Maûtner (two daughters); died Edinburgh 20 March 1997.

Professor Frank Llewellyn Jones

terests ranging from physics to railways, and all pursued with an enthusiasm which reflected the "hwyl" typical of a man with his deep Welsh roots. From these roots, of which he was proud, sprang his lifetime of ser-vice to the cause of higher ed-

ucation in the principality. Born in 1907 at Penrhiwceiber in one of the South Wales valleys north of Cardiff, Llewellyn Jones received his early education at West Monmouth School. He went up in 1925 as an Open Science Exhibitioner to Merton College, Oxford, where he took a First in Physics.

There followed three years of research with Professor Sir John Townsend, himself, in his day, a research student of Professor Sir J.J. Thomson, the discoverer of the electron. This was a formative period for Llewellyn Jones, stimulating his deep in-terest in the physics of ionised gases and plasmas, which was as lively towards the end of his life as when he first arrived at the then University College of Swansea in 1932, as a young lecturer in the Physics Department, having completed his DPhil and

a short period as Senior Demy at Magdalen College, Oxford. He remained in the service of the University of Wales for 42 years, 33 in the Physics Department and the rest as Principal. He was appointed as Professor of Physics and Head of Department in 1945, in succession to Professor E.J. Evans, the founding professor. He masterminded the department's rapid post-war expansion and established two internationally renowned research schools, one in ionised gases and the other in electrical contacts.

His interest in electrical contacts research developed while at the Royal Aircraft Estab-lishment, Farnborough, where he was seconded as a Senior Scientific Officer carrying out research on aero-engine ignition during the Second World War.

Llewellyn Jones conveyed his enthusiasm for his subject at Swansea both in lively provocative discussion and through lectures delivered in a style, which. if not always totally coherent, was never dull. He inspired in his students respect and affection and was invited to lecture all over the world. Never an ivory-tower academic, he recognised, long before it became generally ac-cepted, the need for strong interaction between research in the universities and in industry. This led to his developing many col-



Liewellyn Jones: lonised gases

aborative projects with support from organisations such as the Electrical Research Association. the Central Electricity Association, the Central Electricity Generating Board and the Plessey Co, as well as involvement in the early stages of the fusion power mittee of the Royal Society un-der Sir G.P. Thomson.

While Head of the Physics Department he also served as Dean of Science (1946-48), Vice-Principal (1954-56 and 1960-62), and Acting Principal (1959-60). Then in 1965 he was

Frank Llewellyn Jones was an academic of integrity, with innotorious Sixties, a time of turbulence and dissent in academe as elsewhere. Swansea was not without its share of disruption, but emerged in good shape to meet the different challenges which continue to this day.

Liewellyn Jones also served

as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wales (1969-71), playing a crucial part in the incorporation into the university of both St David's College, Lampeter, and the Welsh Coles lege of Advanced Technolog (as the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, before its subsequent merger with the University College of South Wales, Cardiff). As Chairman of the Gregynog Committee he initiated the incorporation of the study centre at Gregynog in mid-Wales into the university, and the restoration of the prestigious Gregynog Press. He also made significant contributions to the advisory committee on the University of the Air, under the chairmanship of Baroness Lee, the recom-mendations from which eventually led to the establishment of the Open University. In the wider Welsh context, he

served as Senior Scientific Adviser (Wales) on Civil Defence to the Home Office, and for six years on the Council for Wales. where his knowledge of, and enthusiasm for, rail transport enabled him to argue effectively against too drastic a reduction in rail services in Wales. Under his chairmanship, the Central Advisory Committee for Education (Wales) as early as 1965 issued the first report to document the impending crisis in schools resulting from the shortage of science graduates entering the teaching profession. Again under his chairmanship, the university committee on the place of Welsh in Broadcasting made recommendations which were subsequently adopted and led to the eventual establishment of the

Welsh-language channel S4C. Liewellyn Jones's contributions to physics research, encapsulated in five books. including his well-known definitive Methuen monograph Ionization and Breakdown in Gases (1957), as well as in more than 70 original papers in scientific journals, were recognised by the award of the C.V. Boys Prize of the Institute of Physics in 1960 and the first Ragnar Holm Achievement Award for Research on Electrical Contacts in 1972.

Charming and courteous and sometimes slightly vulnerable in his personal relationships. Frank Llewellyn Jones was an independent thinker, outspoken in his professional contacts, never unduly influenced by olitical correctness or the establishment view and sometimes slightly impatient and irrever-ent of authority. Traits which, in the view of some of his close friends, prevented his attaining the full recognition which his undoubted range of achievements warranted; although it must be added that this was a matter of greater concern to his colleagues than to himself.

Frank Llewellyn Jones, physicist: born Penniweriber, Glamorgan 30 September 1907; Lecturer in Physics, University College of Swansea 1932-40, Head of De-partment of Physics 1945-65, Vice-Principal 1954-56 and 1960-62, programme, stimulated in the Acting Principal 1959-60, Princi-universities by the Warren Compal 1965-74; Senior Scientific Officer, RAE, Farnborough 1940-45; Professor of Physics, University of Wales 1945-74 (Emeritus); CBE 1965; Vice-Chancellor, Universit ty of Wales 1969-71; married 1938 Eileen Davies (died 1982: one son, and one daughter deceased), 1983 Mrs Gwendolen Thomas; died appointed as Principal of the Cardiff 3 February 1997.

Charles Booth

Charles Booth was the only British diplomat to have served three times in Burma, the third time as ambassador. He was warmly attached to that wayward country and equally warmly esteemed by the Burmese. who, in spite of the severance of the Commonwealth link, still feel more comfortable with the British than with other foreigners.

Booth was born in 1925, and educated at Heywood Grammar School and Pembroke College, Oxford, where he took a degree in History in 1950. From 1943 until 1947 he served in the Airborne Division of the Royal Artillery and was involved in support of the civil power in the run-up to Indian independence. He joined the Foreign Office in 1950, and was posted to Rangoon in 1951. This first tour enabled him to learn Burmese, to travel widely round the very varied country - im-



possible to do later when diplomats were severely restricted and to make many loyal

Burmese friends Back in the Foreign Office from 1955 to 1960, he served as Private Secretary to the Parliamentary Secretary of State and was one of the Resident Clerks,

living up in the attics of the old

India Office and acting as first line of defence in the evenings and at weekends in the event of foreign coups d'états or other alarms. Posted to Rome as First Secretary in 1960, he was involved in the Queen's State Visit the following year and appointed LVO and to the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic.

He returned to Rangoon in

1963 as Head of Chancery, but his posting was cut short the next year as the embassy was reduced in size; the Revolutionary Council's determination to cut links with the rest of the world left little for diplomats to do, Booth's transfer to Bangkok was logical administratively, but the two neighbouring countries are as different from each other as, say, England and Turkey, and he left Rangoon with regret, in spite of the difficulties imposed there by the regime and the fact that many

of his Burmese friends had been imprisioned. After another spell in the Foreign Office from 1967 to 1968, he served successively in Kampala as Deputy High Commissioner, in Washington as Consul General and Counsellor in charge of the Administration, and as Counsellor in Beigrade, where he was glad to get back to political work and observe the intricacies of Tito's domestic and foreign balancing acts.

In 1978 he returned to Rangoon as Ambassador, the post he had always set his sights on, and was appointed CMG in 1979. By this time the Ne Win regime had somewhat softened. In spite of the fact that any Burmese official - which meant virtually anyone, since the private sector had been all but abolished - had to ask permission before consorting with a foreign diplomat and write a report afterwards. Booth managed to make excellent use of his earlier contacts. He was able to promote useful British aid projects, under the aid trade provision (ATP) whereby, for example, a company like John Brown Engineering was subsidised to construct a muchneeded power station.

He was particularly proud of unearthing from a shed in the zoo a statue of Sir Arthur Phayre, a proconsul of early British rule after whom one of Rangoon's main streets was named, and persuading the minister responsible to let him set it up in the Residence garden. The Burmesc, for their part, were delighted to have a British ambassador who understood them and regarded their post-colonial difficulties with real sympathy. Booth's last post was as High

Commissioner in Malta, for ried 1958 Gill Emms (two sons, him something of an anticlimax.

After that he solved the famil-

iar problem of public servants retired at 60, by signing on again for security clearance work in the Foreign Office, thus gaining five more years of congenial company.

Besides his love of the

Burmese language and peo-ple, Charles Booth was keen on opera, and in his retirement in Suffolk became increasingly interested in exploring the delights of his own country, having spent most of his working life abroad. He was always interested in other people's perceptions and ideas and took great trouble to encourage the young. **Martin Morland**

Charles Leonard Booth, diplomat: born 7 March 1925; LVO 1961; Ambassador to Burma 1978-82; CMG 1979; High Commissioner, Malta 1982-85; martwo daughters); died Southwold, Suffolk 21 March 1997.

Christianity is no National Trust of the Spirit

Births. Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

PRIOR: Archie Tam, FICM, Sudden-by, after a short illness, on 15 March at Banstead, Surrey, aged 84. Devoted harband to Ada, much lewed and ad-mired father of Susan and Stephen. Grandfather of Stephen, Ben and Ali-cia and great grandfather to William and Elizabeth. Service of thanksgiv-ing and cremation at Randalls Park, Leatherhead, Surrey 2pm Tuesday 1. April 1997. Flowers or shrubs to be planted in his memory please to Fuplanted in his memory please to Fu-neral Directors; W.A. Truelove & Son, Banstead, Surrey.

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The Queen has approved the appointment of the following as Queen's Counsel:

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Lastence Anthron Collina, David Cabert-Small,
John Penn Vanghan Bevan, Richard Michael
John Penn Vanghan Bevan, Richard Jeffer Garev, Peter John Hourt Rulls, Fonns Gruenr George
William Rome: Rathard Sr Barbe Medinica,
Richard Gazzae Reger Richards Levis Wand
Peter William Clarke, Powel Thomas Fish Albert
Mann, March Labra Lohn McGregore.

Birthdays Mr David Andrews, former chair-

man, Gwion Ltd. 64; Miss Ruth Ashton, former General Secretary, Royal College of Midwives, 58; Mr Robert Bauman, chairman, British Acrospace, 60; Professor Alastair Bellingham, haematologist, 59; Sir Louis Blom-Cooper QC. Indepen dent Commissioner for the Holding Centres. Northern Ireland, 71; Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, former prime minister, 85: Mr Robert Cohan, choreographer, 72; Miss Maria Ewing, opera singer, 47; Lord Fanhave of Richmond, former MP, 70; Mr Julian Glover, actor, 62; Sir David Hancock, former senior civil servant, 63; Mr Nick Hawkins MP, 40; Mr Victor Hochhauser, impresario. 74; Lord Lyeil, former government ninister. 58: Mr Geoffrey Parker, chairman, Teacher Training Agency, 64: Lord Plumb, MEP, 72: Mr Mstislav Rostropovich, cellist and conductor, 70; Mr Budd Schulberg, novelist and screenwriter, 83; Sir Richard Sharp, former senior civil

Jonathan Lional Cohen; Michael John Drugies, William John Norres; Inia Saville Goldrein; Edward Bartley Junez, James Rachard William Grock (Ferfley) Charles Mannes, Marc Chrestme Vitoria, David Michael Bean; Peter Mornel Rott, Nigel Merben Peters; Neil Mortrea; Horn Stephen John Irwan; Nigel Mortlean Lloyd Luthman, Dommit, John Kendrick, Andrew John Proplessel, Nachodas Auchibald Hambleri; Luthwy Alice Browell, George Andrew Michannes Legani; Sally Jane Gried, Pould John Philippe Henry Stephen Mars, Rutte, Elizabeth Annabel Walker; Jelleev Nigel Gruder, Andrew Romein Hotchbauer; Michael Afan Rodd, Jonathan Santon Bruck, John Latiner Walkers, Stephen Mars, Stephen Mars, Stephen Mars, Stephen Mars, Stephen Marker, Stephen Mars, Stephen Marker, Stephen Marker

servant, 82: Admiral Sir Jock Slater First Sca Lord and Chief of Naval Staff, 59: Professor Margaret Stacev. sociologist, 75; Mr Frank Taylor, Chief Constable, Durham, 64; Miss Daphne Todd, president, Royal Society of Portrait Painters, 50: Mr Cyrus Vance, former US Secretary of Cyrus Vance, former US Secretary of State, 80; Mr Michael York, actor, 55.

Anniversaries

Births: Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, architect, 1886; Gloria May Joseph-ine Swanson, actress, 1899, Deaths: James VI of Scotland/James I of Great Britain, 1625; Yuri Alekseyevich Gagaria, cosmonaut, 1968. Te-day is Maundy Thursday and the and St John of Egypt.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Queen and The Deigs of Edinburgh attend the Manualy Servan or Bradlend Cathedral, The Queen at totals the International Lyspoph of Youth Roght Final at Manualfield Lindburgh. Changing of the Guard
The Household Caraty Municel Reported tool
the Queen's Life Guard at Harry Guards. Hory.

Paines: David John Halerate; Jeremy Harch Stu-att-Smith: Peter Joseph Francas Dully; Kenneth Dogad John Marchanald, Benjantan Cime Froed-men David Rubp Holger, Nicholer, Alan Statum Dowdiage: Gregory Charles Mathew Mitchell, Urbraupher Steyhen Vand, Amthew Muter, An-alice Beyttean Charle, Nicholen Aufhour Joseph Urbelain Mostyn: Brian Russell Greeci: Andrew Jerems, Cother Edes Christopher Lunes Mayrood Jeans: Lunnel Edward Percey, Tunothy John Ha-ler, Ernech Nigel Rydie. Honorie usus Peter Churles Peddie, Professor & Machael Zandar, Peter Kenneth Janes. Thompson, Professor William Rodolph Cormeb, Antheny William Rodolph Cormeb.

Human beings make a point of re-membering significant events in their past, because they know that forgetting is as natural as remembering. There are people we once thought we could never forget, yet only the prompting of an old photograph or a letter discovered in a book we haven't picked up for years calls them to mind.

This is why the great spiritual traditions insist on the ordered remembrance of the saving events in the life of the community. For Christians, Holy Week is a sustained act of recollection of the last days of Jesus, and the theme of remembrance is particularly important on this day, Maundy Thursday. But the kind of remembrance we have in mind

is revolutionary, not nostalgic. The liturgy for this day enjoins us to bring the past into remembrance in a way that makes it actually present. The theological term for this mysterious process is anamnesis, the word used by Jesus at the Last Supper, when he told us to eat the bread and wine in remembrance of him. When Christians celchrate the eucharist, they are making his presence real now, not simply

looking back at his presence then. Aaron Copland once said that "we are in search of a usable past". We Arguments Of Easter

Maundy Thursday is a day for remembrance. But the result should be liberation rather than nostalgia, says Richard Holloway, the Bishop of Edinburgh.

need a past we can use in the present. We need a remembering that will strengthen rather than weaken us. Many people carry the past in a way

that makes it difficult for them to respond to the challenges of their own day. They bear burdens of personal guilt for sin or loads of regret for the way things were, but are no longer. They in-terpret the command of Jesus at the Last Supper as an exhortation to look back to some sacred historical moment. rather than as a challenge to discover his meaning for today. So Christianity then becomes part of the heritage in-dustry, the National Trust of the Spirit, there to preserve not only old buildings and old words, but old customs and prejudices. Rather than findenough about our own nature to uning Jesus in our own present, it calls upon us to look back at him in a past that is no longer available to us.

Christianity has always found it easy to fall into this mood of immobilising conservatism. Behind it lies an understanding of God not as liberator, but as an unforgiving parent whose disapproval is constant and whose benediction can only be earned by conformity to an unyielding code.

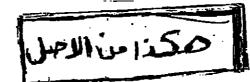
This version of Christianity breeds stunted personalities who inveigh against humanity and its follies, because they hate the devil more than they love God. It has prevented us from living creatively and joyously, because it has instilled into us a false understanding of God as the great potty-trainer in the sky who will love us only if we keep ourselves immaculate and never get into

This is the great caricature that Jesus came to overturn. Martin Luther out fear. In the liturgy of this day it is said that if we had nothing of the New Testament except the parable of the Prodigal Son we would have the complete gospel, because it contains Jesus's we know that even in the long agonies essential message of the unconditional love of God, waiting for us to return breaking of the bread.

derstand that we can only love if we are first loved.

This is good parenting as well as good theology. We have to be loved as we are, with all that we have made of our lives: wrong roads taken, right roads not taken; the fools we've been, the messes we got into; the helplessness of so much of our living, yet remembering, remembering constantly, that we are loved and that God is still there for us after all our wanderings. That is a message worth bearing in

remembrance. On this day, as we recall the last supper of the man who came to make our lives more abundant, we remember also the kindness of God and the original love that gave us being and will one day transform that being into glory. This love gives us courage to live joyously and imaginatively, not fearfully and nervously, because we know that God's perfect love has cast nated by a presentment of bliss, because of time Jesus is still present to us in the





Evil, unnatural, but only too human

henever a horrific murder is committed we search desper-was an alien, a creature apart, not comately for a way of understanding it. That urge for explanation is multiplied tenfold when the horror is perpetrated by a child. Then, predictably, we tend to turn to the same stack of ready explanations. Lacking a map to understand the mind of a 12year-old child who murders, apparently for semi-sexual pleasure, we grab any clue that offers the relief of comprehension. In truth, though, as we shall show, the quick and ready answers are often a blind - a way of avoiding understanding, of failing to grasp how a child turns into a killer.

Many of us were struggling yesterday to understand Sharon Carr, scrabbling through press reports, staring at her grinning photo. Here was a child who described being "turned on" by stabbing her 18-year-old victim 29 times and then mutilating her. Her crime was so violent, so extreme in its rapacity, that detectives left compelled to assume that it had been committed by a strong, brutal voung man. But this child, when finally interviewed, showed no remorse. Sentenced to indefinite imprisonment. she stepped smiling from the dock. Her diaries described the murder in terms that freeze the mind: "If only I could kill you again. I promise I would make you suffer more this time."

And that provided the first quick and

parable to you or your neighbour. And that provides a kind of easy answer, the relief that says: "I couldn't do that. My child couldn't do that."

In this case, there was a second quick answer: ancient, primeval wickedness, called by its most intimidating name: voodoo. Of course, white European and American demonology has similar opportunities for escaping from rational interpretation. Witchcraft has a long and bloody and hypocritical history in both main branches of Christianity, from Salamanca to Salem. But this child is black. She grew up in Belize City. Her mother burnt black and red candles, sacrificed animals. Or so it is said. And there we have it: the child's mind was turned by black magic.

This - evil of the most primal kind is the easiest escape route of all. We could call it the Stephen King school of understanding. It conjures up images from B-movies of men painted as skeletons, bedraggled in chicken feathers, wearing top hats, dancing madly round fires in the night to summon the spirits of the dead. The implication is that such practices corrupt an impressionable mind, turning the child into an automaton. And that, once again, conveniently allows us to regard her as inhuman.

There is some truth in these ways of explaining how Sharon Carr came to be easy way of interpreting Sharon Carr. who she is. But they seem vaguely to



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suggest that there is a heart of darkness in all our souls, which can be conjured up with a few feathers and an incantation. Nonsense: we are not all inherently evil killers. It is tempting to try to understand extremely depraved acts by arguing that we are all capable of committing them, given the right pressures, the right circumstances. But no: apart from anything else, many children are riddled with hinatic ideas by their parents and their surroundings, but succeed in shaking them off as they gain their own judgement and experience. And many people, confronted by apparently inhuman horror, retain their humanity

intact: witness the civilised individuals who survived the Holocaust.

The real story inside the story may be a simpler one. In a twisted way, it is a homely story. For, when you strip away the peculiarities of most cases of other-worldly violence, you almost always find an all-too-worldly reality of abuse, of systematic damage being done to a mind, not through Satanism, but through all-too-common parental neglect. It seems far more plausible that Sharon Carr's mind was mutilated. not by seeing chickens beheaded, but by routine violence enacted by her mother and others on herself, and all

those around her. Violence begets violence. "Those to whom evil is done, Do evil in return." It is a law older than the Old Testament, but equally true in the Home Counties homes where sexual abuse has just the same capacity to turn bullying children into abusing adults. The cycle goes on and on, the abused growing up into abuser.

The discovery of the pervasive damage done to our society by domestic violence and abuse of children is one of the great and potent discoveries of recent times. Only in the past couple of decades have we started to grasp how significant a factor it is in engendering what the world previously understood merely as abstract evil. If, like Sharon Carr. a child has pepper poured on her vagina as routine punishment; if she witnesses her mother fry her stepfather's head in boiling fat; if this is the only way that she understands a whole gamut of human behaviour. then it is perfectly possible to under-stand that a child's mind may flip.

Not all minds do; we don't yet know what factors decide that one child will convert to a capacity for evil, but another does not. Neuroscientists are learning more and more about brain patterns, and genetic predisposition for certain traits, but their discoveries are at a rudimentary stage. Maybe one day we will be able to decide what is fated. and what nurture (or lack of nurture)

Maybe some of us have murdertriggers that others lack. We do not know what they are, or how they are pulled. But we do know that where evil does break out, it comes from a complex blend of a natural self and of the horribly unnatural things that have been done to that individual. In other words, though it is by no means universal, it is only too human. Sharon is evil. But she isn't an alien.

the leader page

Log off, and we're dinosaurs

Deep down, we are fascinated by the demise of the dinosaurs because we want to know what may obliterate us (unless we escape to some distant galaxy before apocalypse strikes). The list of possible dinosaur disasters runs from volcanic activity and a rise in sea level, to the Earth being struck by a gigantic meteorite. But none of these is likely to cause the end of humanity. Much more likely is that the computers will all close down, and the whole world will grind to a halt. In fact, it neurly happened this week. Lots of people will not be paid in time for their Easter holiday because the Automated Clearing System collapsed. And that's nearly the end of the world, isn't it?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Britain backs family values, if you're white

Sir: Nobody should be surprised by the case of seven-year-old Whitney Forrester, who is threatened with deportation to an orphanage in Jamaica in spite of having a father and grandmother living in Britain ("Rejected by her mother and now by Britain", 25 March).

Our immigration laws have become increasingly tough and discriminatory against black and Asian people since the Cabinet decided to operate a covert colourbar in the late 1950s, a policy made explicit in Cabinet minutes for 1955 and 1961.

Against this background, "family values" do not stand a chance

unless the family is white. If not, the family can expect every technicality to be used to keep it separated by excluding one or more members. The instinct to exclude is so strong that the present government will not ratify two uses in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in which the union or reunion of parents and children is guaranteed above all other considerations.

In the case of Whitney Forrester, an innocent child - who had no need of separate entry clearance when she came to Britain with her mother - has become persona non grata because her mother abandoned her, even though her father and grandmother are

anxious to keep and support her. The next government must eliminate such travesties of justice by examining immigration and nationality laws and repealing those that give licence to the pernicious exercise of racial discrimination, so that the law can fulfil its proper role as the foundation of justice for all. CHAS RAWS Campaign Co-onlinator, Christian Action for Justice in Immigration Law Glasgow ...

Sir: Words cannot express my

feelings on reading of the plight of Whitney Forrester. Perhaps the "silent" majority who apparently support tough immigration controls in the

opinion polls will finally come to see what it means in practice. I doubt it, though. For every Whitney Forrester there are hundreds of others, almost always black, brown or yellow, who are thrown out without such publicity.

The hunger-striking asylumseekers. Whitney Forrester, the grieving husbands and wives waiting in vain for their loved ones to jump ever-higher obstacles in the Kafkaesque farce that is our immigration system ... all are a national scandal.

It is not enough to condemn just "the Government". By our indifference, apathy and in many cases open nostility and xenophobia, we are all guilty. We should be ashamed. STEVENPOWELL

What a prude!

Sir. Defecating, urinating and copulating are indeed as natural as breast-feeding (letter, 25 March), but for John Collier to try and justify his shameful prudishness by judging them as one and the same is ridiculous,

Has he never eaten at a restaurant, or does he also frown upon watching people cat in public? LR WHITELEY London SE9



Piltdown: the simple answer

Sir: You report (21 March) on a meeting at the Linnean Society which discussed, once again, the possible instigator of the Piltdown forgery. What past and current theorists fail to understand is that there were only two individuals who actually found the hones at Piltdown and that the same two individuals demonstrated the bones to the scientific public at the Science Museum.

These two were Charles Dawson, a local solicitor and keen amateur fossil-hunter, and Arthur Smith Woodward, the keeper of palaeontology at the Science Museum, London. No middleman was involved. The problem has always been: who planted the

Sir Arthur Keith, a previous suspect, was drawn into the Pilidown affair when invited, by Smith Woodward, to view the bones at the Science Museum. At that time, 1912, Arthur Keith was a curator of the Hunterian Museum at the Royal College of Surgeons, London. He was a world authority on primate and human anatomy, whereas Smith Woodward specialised in fossil fish and had no special knowledge

of human anatomy. Keith had mixed feelings, from the beginning, about the true nature of the jaw bone; he detailed the simian character of the Piltdown jaw bone on numerous occasions in his Antiquity of Man. Immediate recognition was complicated because key parts of the bone were missing. Smith Woodward. on the other hand, was never in-

any doubt about the bone being

I was present that day in 1953 when Weiner and co descended on the Buckston Browne Research Farm with a "doctored" chimpanzee jaw bone. To my amazement, Arthur Keith gave in immediately. So why did he not respond like that in 1912? He was a young man then and very ambitious, whereas Smith Woodward was at the top of the scientific establishment. Even so. had Arthur Keith stated categorically that the jaw bone was that of a chimpanzee, that would have been the end of the affair.

The other point Pittdown theorists do not take into consideration is the site where the jaw bone was "found". It was "found" in some untouched remnants of the original gravel some four feet six inches down at the bottom of the pit. Hinton or others, now accused of the forgery, would have required the foresight of Tiresias to have arranged the planting of the bone in such a site, and then waited confidently for Dawson to come along and start digging at the precise point at the bottom of the pit. The more plausible explanation is that Dawson carried the bone into the pit. Dawson was an established stainer of fossils. This reduced the forgery to two individuals - those who found the bones and presented them to the scientific community.

WJ DEMPSTER FRCS

Lockerley, Hampshire

Consultants at

Sir: Dr Southern (letter, 21 March) is correct in stating that consultant spend more time on administration, and that the reduction in junior doctors' hours is another potential difficulty for maintaining a first-class level of continuity of care for acutely sick patients. He is, however, incorrect to say that consultants have too little time to see sick patients,

We are a busy two-site campus with a large casualty department. When each consultant was on the rota every fifth day with his team for emergency admissions, the difficulty was to fit an unpredictable workload into an already crowded schedule and the system often worked badly, yet it is the way most hospital admission teams work - often the consultant

sickest people and may not return until the next routine ward round. My directorate runs a physician-of-the-week (POW) system, with one consultant available 24 hours a day for seven days on a rota system. His routine work is cancelled for that week. There are two ward rounds, at 8am and 5.30pm, teaching sessions for students and house staff, and ample time to follow up the admissions of previous days. Continuity of care has been ransformed, especially at weekends

Far from consultants being kept from the bedside, the week is

enjoyable, different and there is time

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only has time to be shown the

to do a proper job. It has optimised the timetables of busy physicians who have a lot to contribute to the the coal-face care of the acutely ill. Dr STEPHEN G SPIRO

Clinical Director of Medicine University College London Hospital Trust London W1 Baffled by 1917? Just ask Trotsky especially when they are admitted.

Sir. As a research historian I am very much in favour of Andrew Marr's suggestion that we "should honour the people in disorganised archives who burrow through individual life stories" ("Makers of their own tragedy", 26 March). I am less happy however at his implication that Orlando Figes has somehow written

the history of the Russian Revolution according to Tony Blair. What Figes has done is to uncover a number of interesting new details about the revolution while adding very little to our overall understanding of it. This is mainly because Figes, focusing on what the

Russian people themselves did. misses the huge significance of the Western attack on the revolution from 1918. The revolution survived, but most of those who made it were killed in the misnamed Civil War with the White armies.

For a general understanding of 1917 and after. John Reed's Ten Days that Shook the World and Trotsky's mammoth History of the Russian Revolution remain by far the best guides. To these it is the

task of the research historian. I'm afraid, merely to add footnotes of qualification or embellishment. KEITH FLETT Convenor, London Socialisi Historian's Group London N17

When Easter visitors drop in

Sir: We love having a river as boundary to our garden, but find the attentions and droppings of five geese a problem. Is there any way of getting rid of them ... apart from the obvious Easter solution? JOHN RATCLIFFE

Sir: I was puzzled as to why the local Sainsbury's store at Apsley Mills should want to open for 24 hours on Easter Thursday, which is 4 April. I found that they really meant Maundy Thursday, 27 March. This is one more example of how the secularisation of this country is destroying our family and cultural fabric. The Rev CHRISTOPHER TERRY Hemel Hempsicad, Herifordshire

Off the pitch

Sir: Perhaps I might fine-tune the definition of "pitching" supplied by Miriam Andrews (letter, 24 March) Precipitation of snow in Bristol is only considered to be pitching if it does not melt when it reaches the ground - otherwise a snowfall is deemed to be not pitching ... and it is safe to put on your daps and dap down to the local shop. DAVID BRYANT

Sir: Your article "Students abandon

Spirit of '68 too

far out for us

sex and drugs for mobile phones and laptops" (24 March) seemed surprised at the findings of the

Oh, if only I could have gone to university in 1968! I should have loved to spend my grant (in line with the cost of living) on jolly nights in the Union bar, learning purely for the love of my subject. discussing how terrible Vietnam was and occupying the vice-chancellor's office over a rise in

And the secure knowledge that my third-class degree, be it in fine art or engineering, would be enough to guarantee me an offer for every job which I applied to! In 1968 it was possible to use your four-year ticket to Bohemia to its fullest advantage.

Now *The Ind* that Tof course students should pay for their education" (leading article, 24 March). This would "of course" lead to

a massive debt after graduation. But graduation is not enough even to get you an interview for that well-paid job necessary to repay your loan. "A degree is not enough", as the mantra at the careers service goes. I lament that this situation has

arisen because of the ridiculous numbers pouring into tertiary education, placing an intolerable strain on teaching resources. I bristle at the "pay for it yourself" attitude of today's fiftysomethings. However I am eternally grateful to Glasgow University for the sense of privilege that I have after four years' learning there.
LORNA RETTIG

Voting pattern in new constituency Sir: Mr Welch of Clwyd can indeed

find out the voting make-up of his newly redistributed constituency (letter, 22 March). First, phone the electoral

registration officer for the area and find out what wards are included in

the new constituency.

Next, go to the public library and check the voting patterns for these wards for the preceding local elections. (To be on the safe side, check back two local elections lest an out-of-kilter

result be present.)

Because wards are seldom split in boundary redistributions, this will allow him to assess with reasonable accuracy the electoral pattern of his new constituency.

However, writing "anyone but ABC on the ballot paper (assuming there are more than two candidates) would result in a spoilt ballot for lack of clarity. NANCY IRWIN Irish Republic

Our rural friend Sir: My view is a vast East Anglian

landscape, but just two fields. One is set-aside, whilst in the other the landowner is ploughing out a bridleway for greater arable

acreage.

Thank God for such folk as Jake Fiennes with his field margins, high hedges and brooder crops ("The game of life", 22 March). Will the keeper, once the countryman's worst enemy, turn out to be his best

STAN HAYNES Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire

Where there's a Will, there's a way



A gangland Romeo and Juliet, a fascist Richard III', a woman as 'King Lear' ... Can the Bard survive all this modern tinkering? Yes, argues Richard D North

groundlings are all astir. American teen star Claire Daines has moved on from MTV's My So-Called Life to an LA gang-war Romeo + Juliet, opening in cinemas here from tomorrow. So all's well: people have always messed with the Bard.

Shakespeare is enjoying a success which is likely to prove light years longer lasting even than Star Wars. He can be digitised but not mastered. You can throw what you like at the plays and feel that the old beggar was on your side all along. While the audiences comes out talking about the special effects, it's the poetry and themes they dream about later. That, and the performances, of course, Repertory theatre may be dead, but there remains a sense of a national repertory theatre - if anything enhanced by television - and there is a special sport in watching a familiar face from a soap or a thriller working with a different class of material. And then there is the buzz of watching a new generation of actors and actresses ageing into

the big stuff. The National Theatre unveils a new King Lear today, and for once we haven't been teased with star interviews. The dark and noisy piece? Out comes his 1967 Henry V (on audio cassette) for a rerun reminding us - what is hard to remember with hi-tech modern productions - that we are invited to "be kind and eke out our performance with your mind. The mind skips along to Laurence Olivier's filmed Henry 1, where the camera goes backstage to enhance Shake-

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speare's game of showing us the swan of Avon's feet paddling beneath the serene surface. In the surreal world of Lear

nearly anything can work. Youngish Kathryn Hunter at the Haymarket, Leicester, was a mesmerising Lear: acting beyond gender and years to portray a regal loss of command of self, family and realm. There was a little, but only a very little, of Patricia Hayes's Edna the Inebriated Woman about it.

One half hopes the National's is one of the quieter productions. It's true, we are mostly glad that modern effects are high-powered. Vulgar they may be, but even a dedicated follower of Shakespeare is glad of things which help pass the time. And sometimes, they add clarity too. In the Royal Shakespeare Company's Lear, Robert Stephens' job was made a little easier when the protagonists' allegiances were mapped out in. colour-coded costume. One was almost grateful for

all that Dolby sound in Branagh's *Hamlet*. The ghost of his father can bellow, "Swear, swear, swear", in the ribcagejarring Sensurround which accompanies intergalactic conflict in Hollywood offerings. And if Branagh's Hamlet had fun is in wondering whether resonances of Olivier's Prince the quiet Ian Holm is up to this and the Showgirl, well, if we're to have the full text we might as well have some pees too. All

distractions were welcome. The bigger effects are not confined to film: the RSC's Lear had the planet earth split with the awfulness of family strife, and it was drenched in the quantities of light you mostly see in rock concerts or in the more unnerving kind of modern restaurant. Half the

audience at Stratford can't follow the words, so it is only fair to give them some other thrills. and an English-speaker can

quite enjoy them too.

There is nothing wrong with mucking about with the look of Shakespeare. Actors have to be dressed in something or other, and they have to stand in front of some sort of scenery. Currently, productions tend to transmute into the fiefdoms of dictators. This month, the Haymarket, Leicester's Lear and Richmond Theatre's Hamlet took advantage of the cheapness of ex-Army greatcoats and charity shop evening wear. They drew on Kafka and Orwell to give us a vaguely East European nihilism. Granted that medieval history was mostly about "domestics" and the troubles absolute rulers faced from their barons, dictators and gangleaders make a perfectly good simulacrum. A fine coffee table book, Shakespeare In Performance (Keith Parsons and Pamela Mason, Salamander Books), hauls together historical and nearhistorical representations of the plays, and points out that Donald Wolfit based his 1942 Richard III on Hitler. Who

wouldn't have, then? Ian McKellen (a good Dauphin in 1967's Herry V) says that Shakespeare's plays started by being staged anachronistically, and thus liberated, went on to embellish Richard Eyre's reading of Richard III into something which was not merely nearly modern and dictatorial but piercingly English because it had hints of The Remains of the Day and its themes of a Mosleyite Britain.

More worryingly, McKellen seems to believe that the mod-







(clockwise from top left) Al Pacino's 'Looking for Richard' Kenneth Branagh's Henry V; Baz Luhrmann's gang war 'Romeo + Jullet'; Kathryn funter as 'Lear'; and lan McKellen's 'Richard fif





ern age can at last see Richard III as a man more sinned against than sinning: people had always been horrible to him, partly because of his deformity, so he became beastly. The Elizabethan mind felt free to hate deformity in its own right and we need to move on a bit from that. But equally, we find in Shakespeare a mind so good that the centuries add little to his insight and anyway we can assert that this is a body of work so respectable no political correctness can censor our discussion of it.

There are limits, as we saw on television last weekend. Deborah Warner's direction of Fiona Shaw in Richard II produced something thrilling and gorgeous, but finally a little pantomimic. Any king snogging his barons in the throne room seems a tad improbable. Shakespeare doesn't get near to hinting it. According to Nigel Saul, in a biography to be published next month in the revived Yale English Monarchs series, Shakespeare got Richard II more near to life than we might expect. This king may or may not have been queer, but he was a stickler for formalities, in public anyway.

Still, our recent crop of Shakespeare adventures remains more vigorous than silly,

Testerday I brought you

extracts from an

amazing High Court case in which the judge, both

counsel and the defendant

are ALL masons. Not only

is charged with attempted

murder, is a real mason, ie

me not to reveal any more

secrets of the Grand Order,

sensational case today.

Masonic Lodge has implored

but their bribe was not nearly

large enough to tempt me, so

Judge: Just a moment, just

I am bringing you more of this

a stonemason. My local

that, but the defendant, who

and Shakespeare's texts chew up psychobabble and spit it out. So it is good frum to spot someone like Al Pacino doing a Richard III which revels in depravity with little apology from character or actor. This is a Richard in which God is invited to stand up for bastards. Pacino follows Olivier's 1955 rendition in seeing the hunchback as a bit of a laugh. Perhaps it took a short Italian to see an English monarch as an overachieving Mafioso. Above all, he did service by showing a movie audience that violence doesn't have to be mindless.

Tor do larger political sensitivities matter. Branagh's *Henry V*, said to be anti-war, is actually plain intelligent. But it doesn't matter, either, that Olivier's wartime Henry V was xenophobic. Shakespeare wrote Tudor propaganda: a nation fighting for its life is always up for a bit of cheering on. Whatever the verdict on old

performances, we will always have the evidence. Every generation from now on will not only have the timelessness of the text, but, in video and celhaloid aspic, every production style from the Second World War on.

This does have its drawbacks. We may forget the value of the epheneral stage and the special skills it demands and rewards. Amongst contemporaries, Branagh stands out, at least for now. He has been our Olivier. as actor-manager he almost invented the modern Shakespeare mass audience. His acting, like Olivier's, is varied but quite limited. He looks great in tights. He can say the verse and gets way beyond craftsmanlike emoting, but even more than Olivier, his amiability robs him of darkness. But it is lovely to see the hammy, actorly tradi-tion alive and well in him.

There is, even on film, a lot to be said for staginess. Pacino was a joy because his was not merely a New York "Method" performance, but his film is a "Method" portrayal of an actor discovering the part. Pacino had done Richard III on the stage long before the film: his naive excitement at exegesis is disingenuous but charming. It

is also camp, in its way.

Lear, though not attempted by many actors, utterly sinks surprisingly few of them. But most more or less fail: Robert Stephens was a cheerdried-out drunk and Michael Hordern seemed to have early onset. Mind you,

Call Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Hordern was performing in a Seventies and Eighties, which seemed curiously dull considering it was the offspring of the Peter Hall-John Barton Shakespeare revolution of the Sixties. But on eassette and video. we can all have the ultimate

Lear of our time: Paul Scofield's Though Scofield's voice sometimes carries a hint of the Dalek, it had - and has - great power, and the occasional squeak which conveys imperiousness swerving off into querulousness in just the right way. Peter Brook, the director of

this Lear's several outings (The Aldwych in 1962, andiotape 1965, and film 1970), is the epitome of the post-Beatle theatre. but demonstrates also the evolution of Shakespearean style. James Shaw, at Stratford's Shakespeare Centre, points out that Brook cut his teeth on bold productions of Titus Andronicus and The Tempest with the likes of Olivier and Vivien Leigh

from the Forties onward. Hamlet, however, sinks most actors. It requires an ability to convey physicality and playfulness, introspection and madness. Mostly, it's the Adrian Mole in him that comes out. Derek Jacobi is getting better

and better in butch parts, but BBC Shakespeare cycle of the for the BBC's effort seemed weak. Mel Gibson never got close. Oliver's gloomy prince seemed narcissistic. The more you see the others, the more you treasure Branagh's effort.

Best of all were Michael Maloney's bits of Hamlet in Branagh's lovely in the Bleak Midwinter (like Pacino's outing, an exploration of actorlines and the Play). On stage at the Richmond, however, Maloney scampered and scarpered too much and was a bit too winning.

J B Priestley observed that Shakespeare certainly liked box office success. It's a safe bet he wouldn't mind whether Romeo and Juliet was set in New York or LA, just so long as it was staged at all.

As for Lear, we will admire it whether it's set in an old folks home (as was at the Haymarket, Leicester) or outer space. And the odd thing is how anyone English is especially allowed to be proud of Shakespeare. Every generation has shared that curious sense of ownership: when we perform or watch him, we are participating in his work of inventing Englishness.

Romeo + Juliet review. The Tabloid, page 4.

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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

a moment, Mr Minghella. Are you trying to say that you are a proper mason and we are not? Defendant: I certainly am. You call yourselves Masons.

I am a mason. Take the Elks and Buffaloes. The Elks and the Buffaloes call themselves elks and buffaloes, but that does not make them elks and buffaloes. Judge: It's not really as easy us that, is it? I mean, you

could say that it was a matter of cognition. Defendant: Cognition? That's not a real word. That's Judge: Fortnum!

9 ∮**)** ⊕

the kind of word they use on Melvyn Bragg's Start The Judge: Bear with me a moment. Does an elk know

he is an elk? No. He has no concept of elkness. "Elk" is simply a term applied to him by humans for their own use. But a member of the order of the Elks knows that he is an Elk. From that point of view the man is an Elk but the animal is not an elk. Defendant: That's quite clever. Judge: You don't get to be a

judge by being stupid.

Defendant: No. You get to be a judge by being a Mason. Judge: There are a great many Masons who are not judges. Defendant: That is statistically irrelevant. Judge: Well spotted.

Incidentally, would you like to hear a Masonic joke ? Defendant: Do I have any choice? Judge: No. Here it is. Which West End shopkeeper was

not a Mason ' Defendant: I don't know. Which West End shopkeeper was not a Mason?



Miles Kington

Defendant: That's not very fuany.

Judge: It is if you are a Mason. We all stick together, you know. And that includes laughing at each other's Desendant: Not true. Judge: How do you mean,

Defendant: We were told at school that the most famous Mason of all was Mozart. Jodge: Yes... Defendant: We were also

told that Mozart could never get a proper job, was never

their own when they are famous, God help the ones. who have no talent at all... Prosecution: M'Lud. fascinating though all this is, might I beg you to return to the trial in hand? Mr Minghella is accused of attempted murder... Judge: Absolutely right. Sorry. Carry on. Prosecution: Mr Minghella, on 17 July last year you were standing on a bridge over the

M2 motorway. Defendant: That is true. Prosecution: From that bridge you dropped a large block of stone which by a miracle did not hit a car, Defendant: It was not a miracle. It was simply due to

the fact that there was no car underneath. Prosecution: On the block of stone were carved the words: THOU SHALL NOT KILL". Is that correct? Defendant: No. It was 'shalt'. Thou shall not kill'. Prosecution: Mr Minghella, I put it to you that that was the act of a religious maniac who had a grudge against car

decently paid and never even traffic and was attempting to got a proper funeral. If that kill a passing motorist to is how the Masons look after punish him! Defendant: I put it to you that you are talking through

> Judge: It is quite possible of course that he had not paid his dues. Prosecution: Who, my Lord? Judge: Mozart. If Mozart

was behind with his subs, and his membership had lapsed, it would explain why nobody helped him with his funeral. Prosecution: My Lord! With respect, we are trying to hear a case of attempted murder here.

Judge: Are we? How exerting. Who is the culprit? Prosecution: This man here. At least, I say it is this man here. My colleague says it isn't. We thought we would talk about it for a while and then those 12 people over there could decide which one

of us was right. Indee: Sounds a remarkably haphazard procedure to me, but if that's how you want to do it, it's fine by me. Court adjourned!

More of this lamorrow, if you

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have been transformed by

immigration. In the West Mid-

lands, the ethnic population is 11.5 percent. But that figure is not spread evenly over the

county. In Birmingham's Lady-wood constituency, the ethnic

minority is 42 per cent. Three

constituencies here have ethnic minorities over 30 per cent, and many West Midlanders feel

themselves to be strangers in their own pubs, schools and

It does not take a great effort

of imagination to understand the problems of this transfor-mation. Between 1974 and

1979, I spent a lot of time try-

ing to persuade Willie Whitelaw, then shadow Home

Secretary, that something had

to be done to reduce immigra-

tion. Brave and loyal though he

was and is, he hated being

I used to ask Willie how he

would feel if, over 25 years,

Winchester became a 90 per

cent Asian school? Or how he

would feel if in 10 years Trinity

College Cambridge became an 80 per cent West Indian col-

at an election we trust the

people to consider the most

falsely accused of racism.

How long shall we avoid the immigration issue?

or Tuesday I was again rebuked by the Prime Minister for raising the issue of immigration at this election. John Major said: "What I am not prepared to see is this issue raised as a partisan political issue because we have seen the most immense improvements in race relations in this country.

There is now no misunderstanding. When I raised this at Prime Minister's Questions on A March, I thought Mr Major might not have heard my question against the row of the Labour benches trying to shout me down. Now we who wish to serve our constituents - yes all of them, black, white and Asian - must explain ourselves.

An election issue is anything

that is of interest to a significant group of people who demand to know what the atti-tude of the candidates will be. There may be considerable regional variations. In Huntingdon, Mr Major's seat, they have an ethnic population of 2.2 per cent and I dare say immigration is not a very big issue there. On the other hand. the recent fall in wheat prices may be. A farmer might say to himself that farming is an industry subsidised and distorted by interference from Westminster and the EU. The farmer wants to hear the Conservative candidate's view. Would Mr Major say: "Oh I cannot discuss the details of wheat prices and I do not wish it to be a partisan politi-

What is a political issue, whether partisan or not, is decided at a General Election by the electorate. It is true that while the House of Commons is sitting there is often agreement between the whips offices (where Mr Major received much of his training) to exclude dis-cussion of embarrassing topics. For instance, from 1990 to 1992 there was no great discussion about the alternatives to the exchange rate mechanism. Indeed the great and good told us that there was no alternative, and to advocate a floating pound, which in those days would have meant a lower pound, was to sell Britain short. Between 1965 and 1970 the great par-ties prevented the discussion of immigration in Parliament. Parliament's cowardice and embarrassment encouraged extra-parliamentary action in the shape of both National Front

Once an election is called, the people decide the issues. In a free society with a free press they decide by exerting the power of the market place. They buy and read those newspapers which report what interests them. Politically correct editors may be appalled but editors discuss immigration because they want to feed their wives and children and they do so by selling more newspapers.

Why is immigration an election issue?



Nicholas Budgen

T used to ask Willie Whitelaw how he would feel if, over 25 years, Winchester became a 90 per cent

lege? Or again what if over 20 years he found that the members of Whites Club spoke mainly Punjabi? Wouldn't you feel a little uneasy and a stranger in your own haunts? This discussion may be embarrassing. But to prevent it is a denial of a constitutional Asian decisions. We trust the jury to decide the most delicate and school' even inflammatory issues in a criminal trial. In the same way

> difficult and sensitive issues. We believe in the balance and good sense of the British. We know that the people will condemn those who take advantage of any minority. Most of all we believe in the importance

> Finally, I defend myself from accusations of racism and desperate opportunism. I do not know what is meant by racist. To point out that there are racial differences is not to advocate hatred, or violence against a minority. As to opportunism, I can only say I have argued about immigration at every election since 1974. It has been my duty to discuss an issue which concerns basically the 80 per cent white population and the 20 per cent Asian and black population of my constituency. It is ironic that this year many Asians have been emerging as pions of strict control of immig Perhaps that is opportunism!

We Tories have nothing to be ashamed of in discussing immigration. By refusing to discuss it the leaders of the great parties fuel resentment and fear. We remember that even under the Tories immigration is running at about 60,000 a year. Would Labour's shadow Home Secretary Jack Straw be good enough to say how much more immigration would result from his proposed relaxation of the Because the lives of many people in the industrial areas and elsewhere over the last 25 years debate can only encourage tension. rules? Private promises and the denial of

Rough justice from the court jesters by Glenda Cooper

was confused as to whether I could say guilty or not guilty," explained of the jurors jailed for 30 days for contempt of court after they allegedly "wilfully refused" to reach a verdict.

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Ms Schot got out of jail after one night in Holloway but the jury system is once again in the dock. After all, no criminal, but any fool, can be a juror. If Ms Schot was as confused as she says she was over this complex case, can we really rely on 12 jurors to be able to reach a true verdict according to the evidence as they are sworn in to do?

Juries have been in existence since the twelfth century to decide the facts in a case proved by the evidence presented by the court and to judge their peers "who will understand", in the famous words of 1066 and all

This may have been fine in the twelfth century when legal processes were fairly informal. but now the increasing complexity of cases is making it more and more difficult for juries. The American poet Robert Frost summed up the jury as "twelve persons chosen to decide who has the better

Last month the Narey report produced recommendations, which are supported by the Gov-ernment, to limit trial by jury. Removing the automatic right to jury trial in cases such as theft, handling stolen goods and some sexual offences would result in 18,000 cases being heard by magistrates rather than in Crown Courts, saving millions of

But the Labour Party has said that, if elected, it will not support any changes to trial by jury. If a police officer or an MP or even the Secretary of State was charged with an offence of dishonesty, would they not insist on being tried by a jury?" asked why should others be denied this right of election?" A police officer or an MP may

highly alarmed at my fate being I served on two juries last year. At the end of that time I left,

convinced that unless jurors were given crash courses in law then the justice system would be better off without them. These were not complex fraud

trials like the Maxwell trial. These was not even infamous libel cases involving awarding compensation (last year the then Master of the Rolls, Sir Thomas



After serving on two juries last year, I became convinced that the system would be better off without them

tion of a jury trying to decide well insist on a jury but as a for-mer juror myself I would be libel compensation as "the posi-tion of sheep loosed in an unfenced common, with no

> My experiences were of a rape case and an actual bodily harm case. But even in these relatively straightforward trials the depth of confusion was

> staggering.
> In the ABH case there was a fair amount of medical evidence. I thought there were several red herrings in the explanations of how the injuries had been caused. Others did not. None of

us felt qualified to decide which was factually correct.

showed wide variations on what uncomfortable results. Sample good character or reasonable jurors listened to a tape preperson it had to be photographic evidence of Colonel Mustard in the library with the lead piping; for another a shifty look presaged unassailable guilt. Outside the courtroom memories were confused as to who had said what and when.

More than 10 years ago the Roskill Committee report on fraud trials tried to measure memory, comprehension and

fraud trial jury through simu-Discussions in the canteen lated studies. It produced trial. When tested afterwards, only four out of 53 had an adequate understanding of it.

Lawyers themselves are firmly in favour of jury trials remaining. "The whole point usually in a trial is a person's honesty or dis-honesty," said Roger Ede of the Law Society. "It is an issue that ordinary members of the public are particularly well placed to

know? They are forbidden to sit on juries. I have!)
In any case, are you really being tried by 12 people from all different walks of life? No official research has taken place on juries in this country because the law prohibits it – although in 1993 a national study of more than 8,000 jurors by Michael Zander, Professor of Law at the London School of Economics. showed that all social classes were represented on juries in proportion to their numbers in the population.

But last year Lord Donaldson. the former Master of the Rolls, said that for complex trials juries do end up becoming composed of people specially selected because they can devote months to jury service. "Inevitably they are those who would not otherwise be more gainfully occupied and who have no pressing commitments in the period of the trial." he said.

Privately many lawyers will admit that there is a preponderance of the unemployed, the retired and housewives while the middle classes will do their utmost to wriggle out of their two-week stint, which does not require much effort - a hooked holiday, a hospital appointment.

The problem if you wish to reform the jury system is: what do you replace it with? Well. democracy won't crumble if magistrates (or juries with relevant expertise) take on more trials that are currently judged by

And if not, let us at least have more research into how juries work. We have no idea whether there is a class element in acquittals and convictions. We have no idea if they are working properly

In the meantime, let's make it more difficult for middle-class do-gooders - who praise jury ser-vice to the skies but wouldn't be caught dead on one - to get out of it. If they want it to be democratic, let them do their bit of public service. If they complain about perverse juries, let them sit

And if you feel that you can't be bothered, think about being in the dock yourself confronted infamous case of the onlia board jurors who convicted an insurance broker of a double murder after four of them turned to more unconventional means of solving the case.

Actually, in the retrial Stephen Young, 36, was found guilty again. Which, I suppose, could restore your faith in juries. Or, for that matter, in ouija decide," (But what do lawvers boards,

o much speculation has flown over the outcome of the Great Telly Debate, it's amazing to think that the ground rules haven't yet been decided. A frenzy of crossparty speculation is currently under way about who should take part, who a Heritage should stand where, who should introduce it (Jonathan Dimbleby is the ITV choice, and his big brother David the BBC's nominee), who

should speak first and for how long
... The key players in this battle of quasi-Ruritanian protocol are Lord Holme for the Liberal Democrats (who must get his leader to the podium or die in the attempt), Michael (House of Cards) Dobbs for the Tories and, masterminding Mr Blair's rhetorical display, Lord Derry Irving, who, as former pupil-master to both Tony and Cherie Blair, is in, let us say, a strongish position to take over from Lord Mackay in the Lord Chancellor's robes.

Connoisseurs of debate will think of the great clashes of yore. Those of a classical disposition will sigh over the gladiatorial exchanges of Demosthenes and Aeschines. Those of a scientific bent will think of Huxley is Wilberforce when the great Darwinist and the poohpoohing bishop scythed at each other over evolution and the Book of Genesis. Fans of a more modern debating style will chortle at the time when Mr Gyles Brandreth, later to become an MP, stood on his head at the Oxford Union despatch box, to prove ... well no one can remember what he was trying to prove, but I'm sure he managed it. And then there was the Lloyd Bentsen vs Dan Quayle debate and its most famous interchange. The question going around the lobby at present is: who will say it? Tony Blair, in yesterday's press conference about Labour's manifesto, banged on about "giving a sense of purpose and direction back to Britain after six years of weak national leadership", and made it clear that, when it comes to direction, he finds nothing wrong with what came before the "six years". So will it be Mr Major or Mr Blair who says to his opponent "I knew Margaret Thatcher, Margaret

The boudoir of George II's mistress is getting makeover after 230 years. It's a long time to wait, Camilla

Thatcher was a friend of mine. Senator - you're no Margaret Thatcher"?

The judge in the contempt-ofcourt case, Judge Anura
Cooray, clearly does not stand
for any nonsense. One of the jurors whom he sent to prison for 30 days verdict claimed "It was a very complicated case," and "I just didn't understand it"; but the judge sent her to the slammer anyway. I've heard it said in legal quarters that ignorance is no defence; but I'd no idea that it was itself a criminal condition. There is, however, a darker tendency afoot here - the idea that a judge could bring the majesty of the law upon the heads of two innocent citizens because they failed to have an opinion.

It's a worrying precedent. I can see m'Lud's draconian ruling being followed by others. Nervous media commentators will be led away. Club for wilfully failing to have an



opinion about The English Patient. " 'It's a very complicated plot,' confessed the defendant, pathetically. 'I just didn't understand it' "). Paramilitary SWAT teams will round up pockets of floating voters in Essex, while an underground cabal of "Don't Knows" will meet guiltily by candlelight to exchange exquisitely balanced views on blood sports, housing and education and chant their accursed slogan, "Well, there's something to be said for both sides..." Small children who cannot

decide if their favourite colour is blue or green will be handed into care (the so-called "turquoise option" will be deemed inadmissible). And all copies of Wittgenstein's Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus will be rounded up. so that the last sentence of each copy ("Whereof we cannot speak, thereof we must be silent") can be ritually

ou think I exaggerate? I don't think so, as the children tend to say. You can find evidence everywhere that somebody somewhere will label it a transgression and try and attack for it. Over in Kabul, the seriously fundamentalist Taliban militia – who last autumn banned women from being educated or employed. banned games and basically outlawed fun of any kind - are at it again. This time it's beards. Not only must you have one, it must be kept as long as possible. like the prophet Mohammed's. The military authorities have just fired 84 civil servants for trimming their facial hair. They we even invented a bogussounding rule-of-thumb for deciding how long a beard should be. A Mr Muazin, of the worryingly-named Department for Promoting Virtue and Preventing Vice, explains: "The beard must be long enough to come out of a clenched fist held at the base of the chin". Anyone whose whiskers fail to protrude beyond the fist will be kicked off the payroll. I expect it'll be penises next.

And before you get too Western-

complacent about casual crucities inflicted beyond reason, consider the fate of poor François-Jean Le Fefebvre, the French martyr whose statue is shortly to adorn the middle of Paris. François-Jean met an unusually horrible end - his tongue was torn out, his hand chopped off, his head removed and the rest of him burnt. That should have taught his fellow blasphemers a lesson; but since his only crimes were "failing to remove his hat to a procession of Capuchin friars, mutilating a crucifix and hanging out with "a group of young people". Can we ssume that it's a damned un-British thing? We like to think that any

rude boy on our streets in 1766, from Bermondsey to Berwick-on-Tweed, could have been guilty of such things without being decapitated, de-tongued and unhanded. But then one thinks of Fielding's hero Tom Jones (who was arraigned for murder for picking flowers on a Sunday), one thinks of Michael Howard and Mr Justice Cooray and one is not so sure.

Thile we're in the 18th century. I see that English Heritage is tarting up the boudoir of one of the most celebrated of royal mistresses. It's at Marble Hill House, the Twickenham villa erected in the 1750s by Henrictta Howard, Countess of Suffolk, with a little present of £11.500 given her by King George II; apparently it was the going rate for services to the monarchical groin. Her ladyship commissioned from court designers all manner of gorgeous silk wall-hangings and damask drapes to adorn her chamber, where she lay, doubtless arrayed in attitudes of abandonment, on a four-poster (king-size, obviously) bed with though I add this detail reluctantly five mirrors. The result was so seductive that even the great Alexander Pope used to abandon his vitriolic satires of an afternoon to show his friends round Henrietta's new gaff. Now the Heritage people are restoring it to its former glory. They're borrowing a bed, "typical of the period", from the Victoria & Albert Museum, spending a cool £30,000 on re-upholstering it and in festooning the walls with silks. It all sounds delightful. But

should royal mistresses have to wait until 230 years after their death to get their living quarters done up? I think we might take Henrietta's house as a benchmark and offer all future royal mistresses a few grand's worth of soft furnishings while they're still alive, provided they can produce documentary evidence of their time as court horizontale, Mrs Parker Bowles. I suspect, is not the kind of woman to turn her nose up at £30,000-worth of festoon curtains, a new Slumberland mattress and a few spectacular swags...



Brutally tortured by the Iraqi secret police, he escaped and came to the Medical Foundation for treatment Tawa Ita-Natisah overcaine the physical effects of his inhumano treatment. But he was left with severe psychological scars. He found it difficult to sleep, became withdrawn and remained imprisoned by his paintal memories With expert counselling and treatment, we have helped to release him from his anguish. Our experienced team of doctors, therapists and caseworkers freat, counsel and provide practical assistance. to people suffering from the physical and mental effects of torture

To do this vital work, we rely on voluntary decations The Medical Foundation is the only centre of its kind in the Uh. Our committed doctors often give their time and skills free link we still have a waiting list for our specialist services. That's why

we need your help urgently. We cannot erase the past, but we can show surrivors of forture that someone cares enough to help them regain their trust in humanity. Please support our work and send a donation today

Yes, I want to kelp survivors of torture $\operatorname{row} = \operatorname{row} \stackrel{\sim}{\subseteq} \operatorname{re} = \operatorname{re} = \operatorname{res} \stackrel{\sim}{\subseteq} \operatorname{res} \stackrel{\sim}{:} \stackrel{\sim}{:}$ Segretaria de que Estado de Party to be a result of the analysis of the second of the

Caring for Victims of Torture

business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Collapse of Freemans sale stuns Sears

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

Liam Strong's position as chief executive of Sears, the retail group, looked more vulnerable than ever last night after plans to sell its Freemans home shop-ping business received a serious

In the latest of a series of twists which have afflicted the sale process, N Brown, the Manchester-based mail order group, pulled out of exclusive negotiations to buy Freemans. It said that after its due diligence process it had felt "unable to proceed".

Sears has now resuscitated talks with Littlewoods, the original buyer which itself walked out on Sears earlier this month when it discovered that Sears was holding talks with other

With the Freemans sale fast becoming a fiasco, the City was yesterday questioning whether Mr Strong could survive this latest embarrassment. One analyst said: "This is par for the course with Sears. Whatever route Liam Strong chooses you feel there will be a mishap along the way." Sears shares fell 1.5p to 74.5p, their lowest point for al-

most five years. Asked if they were now worth buying, John Richards, retail analyst at NatWest Securities, said: "No they are not. You are better off buying a lottery ticket. You've got more chance of winning." The collapse of the N Brown deal will further frustrate Sears shareholders who have become

alarmed at the Selfridges-to-British Shoe group's failure to take advantage of more benign retail conditions. It places Sears in a weaker bargaining position with Lit-

∠ Whatever route Liam Strong chooses you feel there will be a mishap 🤊

tlewoods and will make it harder to achieve the original agreed price of £395m. It will also mean a delay to the deal as it will almost certainly be referred to the Mo-



Brave face: Liam Strong (above) has the strong public support of the Sears chairman, Sir Bob Reid

nopolies and Mergers Commission. Mr Strong is under pressure to complete the transaction quickly as he has promised to return £410m to hareholders.

Ironically the MMC set aside its original investigation into the Littlewoods-Freemans deal only yesterday following formal notification from Littlewoods that the deal was off.

will now look at the merger afresh before making a deci-sion. If the MMC refers the deal again, it could take up to three months before it reports its findings. N Brown would not reveal

diligence process that had scuppered the deal. However, it is thought that Freemans' short-to-medium-

terms earnings stream was not what the company had antici-pated. The two sides were then £40m-£50m apart in their val-

Mr Strong attempted to put a brave face on the latest embarrassment. "Freemans has a high reputation in agency mail order and enjoys a strong mar-ket position," he said. "While we believe that con-

The Office of Fair Trading solidation in the mail order market would be beneficial, we are only interested in pursuing opportunities that are in the best interests of the company and enhance shareholder

Mr Strong's position at Sears has long been under threat and there have been regular rewhat it had discovered in its due ports that headhunters have been appointed to seek a re-

But Mr Strong has enjoyed the very public support of the Sears chairman, Sir Bob Reid.

≤ You are better off buying a lottery ticket than shares in Sears 9

Some institutional shareholders also feel that removing Mr Strong would serve little

They say the group's dis-parate collection of businesses,

which includes the Selfridges department store, the Wallis and Warehouse fashion chains and a raft of shoe shops such as Dolcis, Shoe Express and Ca-ble & Co, is fundamentally Though Selfridges is regard-

ed as a gem, the shoe companies act as a drag on profits. N Brown's shares returned from suspension vesterday and closed 10p higher at 387.5p.
It is understood that the company did have bank finance in place to fund the

Freemans deal. The group denied yesterday that some of its shareholders had been unhappy about the size of the Freemans deal which would have transformed its share of the mail order mar-

Pound surges after American rate rise

£50m rise in Deutsche bill for MGAM

John Willcock

Deutsche Bank revealed yesterday that it took a £430m hit on its 1996 accounts due to the Peter Young scandal at its Morgan Grenfell Asset Management (MGAM) arm, some £50m more than previously in-

When the scandal emerged the giant German bank, Europe's largest, minimised bad publicity by immediately agreeing to compensate all clients of Mr Young's funds last year.

But it still awaits an imminent fine street of the currents.

fine, expected to be over £1m, from the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro), the industry regulator.

Trading in three MGAM funds were suspended in Sep-tember following the discovery of irregularities in the valuations in some of the unit trusts managed by Mr Young. Deutsche re-sponded by making a record compensation offer, the bulk of which should be paid to in-

vestors by April. Mr Young was sacked by the firm and is under investigation by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO). Mr Young has said he is not guilty of any criminal ac-tivity and that he is being made a scapegoat for internal failings.

Deutsche also stepped in with a £180m cash injection to buy out the suspect securities and ensure the funds could continue trading last September. Deutsche Bank's chairman Hilmar Kopper announced the bank's annual results yesterday, Comment, page 25 including the cost of the Young saga: "At the moment we have

just made provisions. The final calculation of the cost has not been completed but we are ex-

pecting it to be DML1 to 1.2bn. The DM1.2bn [rise in extraordinary expenses) reflects the precautions we took in connection with the damages at Morgan Grenfell Asset Man-agement," he added. Those are offset by profits from investments of roughly the same

amount. The bank enjoyed a 4.6 per cent increase in 1996 pre tax profit. Deutsche Bank shares rose 2.5 per cent as investors welcomed its forecast that earnings would rise in 1997, based on trading in the first three months of the year. Deutsche 1947 2

Bank shares closed DM2.3 higher at DM93.70 in Frankfurt. Operating profit, measured before the MGAM items, soared 38 per cent to DM5.8bn. Analysts had been expecting a hit from MGAM of around

"Near term, the outlook is positive because the breakdown on the figures is a little better than expected," said Matthew Czepliewicz, an analyst at Salomon Brothers in London. "I think you can also expect them to draw support from pending

changes in the tax law. Georg Kanders, head of finance, banks and insurers at WestLB Research, said that Deutsche Bank's DM1.2bn costs for Morgan Grenfell were within our expectations. This is a marketing strategy by Deutsche Bank to strengthen their investors' faith. No one got

Homes slump is over at last, says **Barratt**

Tom Stevenson City Editor

Barratt, Britain's second largest housebuilder, said yesterday the seven-year housing recession had come to an end but warned that recent forecasts for house price rises were "overblown".

Sir Lawrie Barratt, the company's founding chairman, said he expected prices to rise in line with carnings growth, but he acknowledged a return to the north/south divide of the 1980s with prices in London and the South-east rising much faster than in the rest of the country. Frank Eaton, Barratt's chief

executive, added that he expected the return to health of the housing market to continue regardless of which party won the election on May I. The policies regarding housing for both parties are very similar. We believe the recent improvement in the market is set to continue," he added.

Barratt's comments on house prices followed a report earlier this week from the Economic and Social Research Council which concluded that house prices were being chased up partly by a fundamental flaw in the way surveyors value them as part of the sales process.

Its research found that dis-

closing the proposed selling price to valuers before they conducted a valuation significantly biased their decision. Valuations tended to "prove"



Building confidence: Sir Lawrie Barratt expects the market to improve further but warned about 'overblown' forecasts

the agreed price in order to ensure deals went ahead.

housing market followed a 30 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the six months to December to £24.8m.

earnings per share to 7p, the interim dividend was increased by ner cent to 3p. Barratt's shares, which have recovered from a low of 36p

the transaction price, with 70 crease of 12 per cent, and said per cent of valuations matching it was well on track to meet its Barratt's optimism for the pared with last year's 7,000.

After an 8 per cent rise in

during 1992 after the company plunged into the red and called Sir Lawrie back from retirement to restore its fortunes, closed 3p higher yesterday at 265.5p. During the period, Barratt completed 3,362 houses, an in-

2163.94 <u>1791.95</u> 3.64

22666.80 17303.65 0.87†

13868.24 10204.87 3.34<u>†</u>

3460.64 2253.38 1.53†

Source: FT Information

5032,94 1.89

7085.16

target of 11,000 houses a year by 2000. This year it expects to complete 7,800 houses com-

The sales were made at an av erage selling price of £84,200, 3 per cent higher than in the comparable period, which Barratt said reflected a greater proportion of houses sold in the South, where average prices were just over £100,000.

Reservations since the beginning of the year have been running 21 per cent ahead of last year, Barratt said, with advance sales reservations and contracts currently amounting to over £200m.

pfennig higher at DM2.7497. Against the dollar it gained Diane Coyle Economics Editor

The pound surged yesterday in the aftermath of the first increase in US interest rates for two years. Investors expect that the strong economy will force rates up on this side the Atlantic too, although probably not until after the election.

Better-than-expected trade auction of gilt-edged stock yesterday also helped boost the pound against both the German mark and the dollar.

During the day it passed the

just over half a cent to reach \$1.6190.

"It's just a matter of time before the UK has to put up rates after the Fed's move," said Jeremy Hawkins, chief economist at the Bank of America. The Federal Reserve said it

had decided to raise the cost of borrowing by a quarter point "in demand, which is progressively increasing the risk of inflationary imbalances". This is exactly the reasoning

behind the Bank of England's DM2.75 level for the first time advice to increase UK base in three weeks, ending about a rates, which has been so far

Trade figures yesterday

showed little sign that the strong pound had affected the balance of payments in January. The whole world deficit in trade in goods narrowed from

£825m in December to £641m. the best monthly figure for more than a year. However, the non-European month, to £554m from £339m in January. Economists saw this as a sign of the underlying deterioration in Britain's trade

the currency. "These figures are just the investment bank Goldman

trade numbers would worsen as the year progressed. There was evidence for this in the growth of underlying export and import volumes. In the year to January, exports

grew by 5.9 per cent and import have picked up as exports have slowed. The improvement in the position due to the strength of

headline figures is most likely due to what economists call the "J-curve" effect - the fact that a strong pound reduces sterling

refused by the Chancellor, flattering to deceive," said import prices before the full Kenneth Clarke.

David Walton, an economist at effect on trade volumes feeds effect on trade volumes feeds

through.
The Fed's move was justified City analysts warned that the by figures yesterday showing ade numbers would worsen as another big jump in durable goods orders in the US last

They increased by 1.5 per cent in February, following a 4.1 per cent jump the previous month. Much of the rise came,

equipment.
"The Fed may feel compelled to raise rates again at the FOMC meeting in late May or early July," warned Christo-pher Low of HSBC Markets in

Krupp to bear brunt of 8,000 job cuts after merger

A merger of the steel divisions of Krupp-Hoesch and Thyssen will cost 8,000 jobs but both German companies yesterday promised striking workers that they would not impose any compulsory redundancies.

Thyssen said it would announce details of the merger today after a compromise averting a hostile takeover bid

launched by Krupp last week. Workforce reductions will definitely be carried out with social compensation," said Hans-Wilhelm Grasshoff, chairman of steel unit Krupp Hoesch Stahl. "We rule out any forced lay-offs under this steel plan."

Ekkehard Schulz, ehairman of Thyssen Stahl, which will take a 60 per cent stake in, and industrial control of, the new company, also said he did not plan compulsory redundancies and added that the brunt of the job cuts would hit Krupp. We will not sign the merger

contract if one thing is not maker of flat steel products, guaranteed by Krupp Hoesch by whose key customers are tonight," Mr Schulz said as he Europe's car makers. sought to assure a workforce that has protested for a week throughout the Ruhr Valley.

The costs that arise by ruling out forced lay-offs must not be borne by the new company or by Thyssen," he added, a clear indication that Thyssen would seek to make Krupp pay for its unwanted takeover bid.

Half of the planned job reductions have already been agreed in areas where the two firms already co-operate. The additional 4,000 job cuts would largely hit Krupp Hoesch's Dortmund steel works.

The merger would take four years to complete and create a producer with an annual capacity of 15 million tonnes of crude steel, putting it third in Europe behind British Steel and France's Usinor-Sacilor. It would become Europe's biggest

The new company, to be named Ruhrstahl, will have a workforce of around 18,000, compared with a combined total of 26,000 now. It will transform Thyssen's Duisburg steel works into one of the world's biggest and most modern integrated mills, while Krupp Hoesch becomes more of an extended workbench for the new

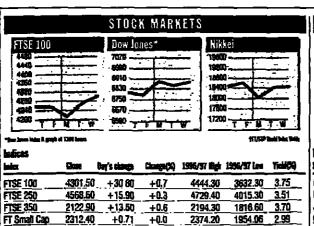
Wolfgang Clement, economics minister in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia where Krupp and Thyssen are based, said he expected a memorandum of understanding on the

merger to be signed soon.

Mr Clement, who intervened to stave off Krupp's DM13.6bn (\$8.1 bn) cash bid for Thyssen, said the two companies would invest up to DM1bn in Krupp's Dortmund steel works.

ETHICS MAN WINS BASILDOI

CONTRIBUTORS THIS WEEK: SUZANNE MOORE, KEITH Waterhouse, Alexander Chancellon, John Keane, LISA JARDINE, JOHN LEGYO, ALAN WATERS, JOHATHAN GLANCEY, HUNTER DAVIES, JOHN GOLE, EMILY GREEN, DARGUS HOWE, RICHARD HOSGART, £1,90 OUT NOW



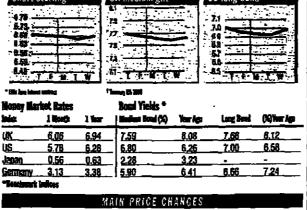
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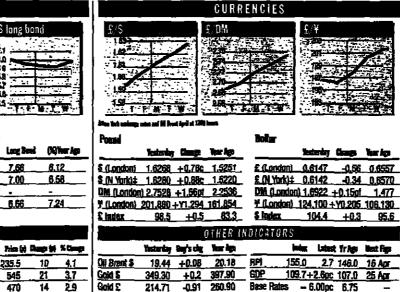


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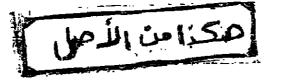
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COMMENT

'Levi's is rattled. Its stylised advertising has persuaded generations of

teenagers to pay topdollar for an image as much as an item of clothing...Price

competition could bring the cosy set-up crashing down'

Lord MacLaurin takes on the jeans machine

It was only a matter of time before a super-market began selling that ultimate icon of classless, late 20th century fashion, Levi 501 jeans. It was inevitable that the chain in question should be Lord MacLaurin's Tesco, the trend-setter in so much of the retail revolution that has blown through the high street. It goes without saying that hefty price cuts would be involved. And it was utterly predictable that Levi Strauss & Co would cry foul.

Its jeans, as they say, are shrunk to fit, but not on to supermarket shelves alongside the loo rolls and dried pasta. Where are the staff trained in the art of selling "jeanswear"? Where is the groovy music? And where, more to the point, are the margins? Levi's has no desire to set retail prices no siree, but if everyone goes around knocking £25 off the price of its best stonewashed denims then where will it all end?

It should prove an interesting battle. The supermarkets have successfully targetted books, over-the-counter medicines, petrol and compact discs. You can bank with them, you can buy on credit with them and, if your taste in shopping runs to the Co-op, you can literally go from the cradle to the grave with them.

But Levi jeans are different. As the discount supermarkets discovered a couple of years back when they tried to sell posh perfumes at half price, hell hath no fury like the fragrance house that sees its brand being

they ought to be, and Levi's defences could prove shaky. If it takes a diploma in "jean-"

Can Mr Strong survive the latest setback. wear" to sell a pair of 501s then why can they be bought by catalogue? The answer is because Littlewoods and Freemans charge £54.99 for a pair of mail order 501s compared with the £52 charged at the official

Levi's Store in Regent Street. Tesco is now proposing to knock them out for £30 a throw and still make a £5 profit. It would like to sell a range of styles at different prices - another of Levi's pre-conditions. But the only consignment it has so far been able to get its hands on is a shipment of 45,000 pairs of stonewashed red, black and yellow, button-up fly, 501s from a supplier

You can see why Levi's is rattled. Its stylised advertising has persuaded genera-tions of teenagers to pay top-dollar for an image as much as an item of clothing. Levi Strauss has lived high on the hog but price competition could bring the whole cosy setup crashing down. A nation of parents will be cheering Lord MacLaurin on from the

Strong is selling from a weak position

his time it is curtains for Liam Strong. 1 Definitely maybe. The chief executive of Sears has survived so many close shaves that Jeans, however, are different, or at least | if he is finally pushed out of the stores group

Can Mr Strong survive the latest setback, the collapse of his plans to sell Sears' mail order business Freemans to Sir David Alliance's N Brown group?

Logically, the answer ought to be no. He originally planned to sell the business to Littlewoods but when Littlewoods discovered he was also negotiating with N Brown it pulled out in disgust.

Now Mr Strong is back in talks again with, er. Littlewoods. The negotiations are described as "exclusive", a redundant phrase since Littlewoods is now the only buyer in

Given that it is a buyer's market, it is hard to see how Mr Strong can persuade Littlewoods to part with the £395m it had originally offered to pay for the business back in January. He could of course walk away if the price is too low, but that would mean tearing up his plans to hand the proceeds back

He could strike a deal at a lower price. But even if he agrees to that, the sale will almost certainly head straight for the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Depending on what conditions were imposed, the MMC could either force the price down still further or prove a show stopper altogether.

After the fiasco of Sears' abortive sale of its shoe shops to Stephen Hinchliffe. Mr Strong cannot afford another failure. There

Perhaps the shoe business will recover. Perhaps the moon is made of green cheese. If there is a grain of consolation, it is the fact that Sears has lost the capacity to disappoint - hence the indifferent reaction in

share price. But Mr Strong is running out of room. He has a dwindling band of supporters in the City but even they must surely be losing

Final whistle blown on City's latest fad

s excuses for not floating go, the absence A of full-time paid executives is as spurious as they come. That, however, was the official line at Sheffield Wednesday yesterday - it was the newest reason for staying private from what claims to be the country's oldest club.

What the spin from Hillsborough was studiously avoiding was an admission that the cold shoulder given to Charlton Athletic last week - its shares collapsed from the 80p offer price to 50.5p at one point on the first day's dealings - had blown the final whistle on soccer's flirtation with the City.

Football's flotation frenzy has followed a similar pattern to a string of new issue fads in recent years. Improving fundamentals in this case rising attendances and a game was plenty of bluster on offer yesterday. awash in TV cash - paved the way for early quite bring the Perhaps Littlewoods will cough up after all. successes, tempting others to follow suit and those terms.

all the time reducing the quality of the com-panies on offer until investors finally haulked.

business

Last year it was hoteliers who caught the stock market bug with high-quality offerings like Millennium & Copthorne beating a path for less blue-chip peers like Thistle and Jarvis to follow. By the time investors starting running their slide rules over little Principal Hotels, share prices were dipping below their issue prices and the float was

The previous year belonged to the Internet when the dramatic success of Netscape's flotation - dealings were expected to start at \$13, instead they hit \$50 - meant anything with the words Net. Web, information or superhighway in the prospectus could, for a short period, earn a favourable hearing. Three years ago the construction sector rode that industry's false dawn but within weeks run out of sicam.

In any industry there are only a limited number of companies with the qualities to make them stand out as an investment from their peers. In football, however, the shortage is unusually acute. Even in the stock market's sillier moments, no one would pretend Charlton's and Manchester United's brand strength, quality of earnings and growth potential are remotely comparable. The Blades realised the game was up for them for now, even though they couldn't quite bring themselves to express it in quite

Taxpayers foot '£5bn bill' for rail privatisation

Michael Harrison

Rail privatisation has cost the laxpayer a net £5bn, according to an independent study of the break-up of the industry to be

The study, by a rail economics consultancy, lays most of the blame for the huge bill on the way the industry was divided up into nearly 100 separate busi-

nesses on privatisation.
It says that although rail privatisation has raised or saved £13.5bn, the total costs of the programme amount to more than £18hn when sweeteners to private. operators and administration

The study, the first attempt to assess the financial impact of rail privatisation, says the Government raised £4.5bn in sale proceeds and has saved a further £6bn by cutting subsidies to private train operators.

However, these savings are dwarfed by the extra £7bn cost of running the privatised industry because of its increased complexity, debt write-offs, the undervaluation of Railtrack and one-off transitional costs and sweeteners.

Dr Nigel Harris of the Railway Consultancy, the author of the report, said: "The results indicate that whatever other benefits there may be from a vatisation. The most recent fig-

privatisation process, the financial impact has been negative. Privatising BR in the manner chosen by the Government has cost nearly £5bn. Whatever the exploits of the new operators, it seems very improbable that benefits will be found which exceed these

> The figures in the study are based mainly on written parliamentary answers, select committee reports and estimates by the City.

According to the study total grant paid to the railway industry rose to around £2bn in each of the two years before pri-

Rail priva	atisatio	on – was it worth it?	<u> </u>
* Costs	£m	Receipts	£m
One-off transactional costs	1,200	Sale proceeds	4,455
Loss on sale of Railtrack	2,400	Franchise savings	5,985
Railtrack sweeteners	1,069	Tax revenues .	1,184
Sweeteners to freight businesses	575	Revenue gained from new investment	159
Debt write-offs	. 1,229	Asset replacement adjustment	1,712
Revenue lost from delayed investment	425		-
Miscellaneous costs.	- 80		
Additional costs of running network	7.104		· :
Regulatory costs	171		
· Access charge adjustment	1,160		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
6R efficiency savings at 3% pa	1,952		
Expected economic improvement	684		
TOTAL	18,049	TOTAL	13,495
NET COST:	£4,554	Source. The Privatesahon of British Rail by Dr Högel S Harris an	d Emest Goderard

ures from the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising show that total subsidies in the coming financial year will be

The study puts the cost of preparing the industry for privatisation, including City advisors fees and redundancy charges, at £1.2bn, It also estimates that the £1.9bn sale of Railtrack shortchanged the taxpayer by as much as £2.4bn based on the book value of the company at the time.

However, the study says the higgest costs of privatisation -

put at £7.1bn - are the finterface costs" that result from 96 separate train operators, leasing companies, suppliers, infrastructure companies and engineering and maintenance units having to deal with one another. The Commons Transport Select Committee estimated these costs at £850m a

The figures used by Dr Harris also include the £1.3bn of debt in the industry written off by the Government and the assumed financial benefits that were lost through delays in

year, says the study.

upgrading the network while privatisation was being pushed through.

Some of the figures and assumptions used in the study have been challenged by the Government. For instance, it argues that the real value of Railtrack was not its book value but the price investors were prepared to pay.

The figures produced by Dr Harris do not include estimates of the wider economic, benefits that could flow from privatisation such as shorter

Greenbury has had 'little impact'

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

Just 10 per cent of companies have changed their policy on directors' employment contracts since the 1995 Greenbury report on executive pay, the shareholder advisory consultants. Pirc. claimed vesterday.

In its response to consultation by the Hampel Committee on corporate governance, the successor to the Cadbury Committee headed by ICI chairman Sir Ronnie Hampel, Pire argued investors had been baffled by a "blizzard of statistics" following the Greenbury codes call for business to publish more information about directors pay.

The Pirc submission added: There has been an explosion of detail declared on remuneration, but little direct impact from shareholders in linking pay to performance."

It criticised the "fruit machine effect" of recently introduced

payouts to executives' performance but in reality "deliver arbitrary results". This year many L-Tip schemes will start paying out large sums in shares to directors, often above the straightforward share option plans they replaced.

Pirc said big City shareholders were still not taking the apportunity to influence companies' policies by voting on resolutions at annual general meetings. The group argued that institutional investors should be required to make their voting policy public.

The Pire proposals emerged as British Gas released its annual report, which showed the pay of its directors fell by 11 per cent last year to £3.04m. The report confirmed most senior directors received average pay rises between 3 and 5 per cent from I January, information which was made public when the group, now renamed BG long-term bonus schemes (L. Plc, demerged last month.

Murdoch closes in on deal for US Bible-thumper's family channel

David Usborne

Tireless in his pursuit of access to the American front room. Rupert Murdoch was said yesterday to be closing in on a deal to buy 40 per cent of International Family Entertainment. owner of the Family Channel

The deal, if consummated, would give Mr Murdoch's News Corp another vital beachhead in the US television industry. Last month, he shocked entertainment insiders by signing a joint venture deal with the nascent but fast-growing cable broadcaster, EchoStar.

His latest investment, which

case the children's programming of his Fox Television Network. IFE is controlled by Pat

Robertson, the super-powerful religious broadcaster who has in ming. Its flagship religious programme, which airs in prime time in the US, is *The 700*

\$600m, will be important pri- channel. During the morning ence reach already enjoyed by marily for the opportunities it and afternoon hours, however. Family. According to latest will give Mr Murdoch to show- its programming would be given Kids service.

the past also run on a conservative ticket for the US presidency. Previous suitors have baulked at a final deal because of the Family Channel's commitment to religious program-

Chib, hosted by Mr Robertson. But the tabloid USA Today reported yesterday that Mr Murdoch would agree to allow the could cost News Corp some show to retain its slot on the

over to the output of his Fox

A deal with IFE could give Mr Murdoch a cable base that could give him equal standing with the two other main children's cable enterprises in the US, the Cartoon Network, owned by Time Warner, and Viacom's successful Nickelodeon. The Family Channel is "one

of the few remaining independent cable networks with almost universal distribution". Frederick Moran of Furman Selz, told USA Today. "It's a gem of

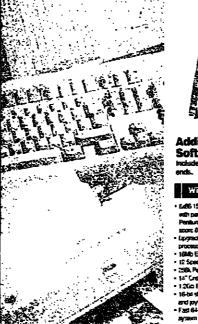
Most appealing for Mr Mur-doch is the considerable audi-

cable industry figures, it penetrates 59 million homes in the US, compared with 66.8 million for Nickelodeon and a much smaller 28.3 million for the Cartoon Network.

Any deal with IFE would reveal a twin-track bet by Mr Murdoch on both cable and satellite broadcasting in the US. It would be a strategy designed to guarantee him the broadest possible access to viewers regardless of whether his hopes for satellite TV take off or not.

Analysis predicted, however, that news of Mr Murdoch's approach to LFE would prompt other broadcast players to try to block him.

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Wolfson backs son's move on to Next board

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

yesterday defended the appointment of his 29-year-old son Simon Wolfson to the board of the retail group and said he had received no complaints from Lord Wolfson said he did not

expect any objection from instit-stions at Next's annual meeting in May "unless the shareholders have had a collective bout of insanity" He added: "I have poken to our institutional investors and they are not remotely worned about it."

Lord Wolfson said the fact that Simon Wolfson was his son had probably delayed his ele-vation to the board. "If anything, the appointment is overdue not premittire. In my view they Next had him far too

heap for son long."
-However Pirc, the corporate overmocial obbying group, has Triessed concerns about the ppointment which was an-

yesterday it would wait to re-Next chairman Lord Wolfson, an objection at the AGM.

been sales and marketing manager of the Next brand since 1993 and is regarded highly by chief executive David Jones,

comments came as Next reported another set of sparkling results with annual pre-tax prof-its 12 per cent ahead at £158m. close to their record high.

With the high street stores and
the Next Directory catalogue en-

joving booming sales, the com-Next has held talks with possible partners and would make a

ceive the Next annual report before deciding whether to raise Simon Wolfson joined Next in 1991 when he was 23. He has

who made the appointment. Lord Wolfson's forthright res rose 22.5p to 618.5p.

Next is also planning to ex-pand its franchise operations this

pany is pondering a move into financial services. Mr Jones said decision in the next 12 months. year. Four will open in Japan.

in the Middle East, with four

more to open in Europe. Next dozen sites. Next is gaining

Family matters: Lord Wolfson (above) said his son's

stores in the US but will add one more store there this year. The single store in France is performing below expectations and there are no plans for more. The company said it was not interested in the Littlewoods four in the Far East and three stores chain, which is up for sale,

but may be interested in half a

appointment was overdue

is losing money with its four market share with sales of menswear, womenswear and childrenswear all strong. Lord Wolfson brushed aside suggestions of a possible link-

up with Great Universal Stores, the mail order retailer where he is also chairman. He said there were no advantages that were immediately apparent. Investment Column, page 26

Sheffield Wednesday delays plans for flotation

Chris Hughes

Sheffield Wednesday yesterday football clubs by postponing plans to float on the stock market for at least two years.

Instead the Premier League club will proceed with a share placing and open issue to raise £17m that will value The Owls at £42.5m.

"The directors have considered various options including flotation," said the chairman. David Richards, "The objective for the company should be a full listing on the London Stock Exchange but it is likely to be more beneficial to achieve this in two or three years' time."

He said an immediate listing would not be possible because the company's financial performance last year had been worse than that of 1994, though the club declined to give further details. Sheffield Wednesday has yet to appoint full-time executives. The present directors

Nick Batram, an analyst at Greig Middleton, welcomed the postponement as a healthy evolution in the football club

Granada

clears

another

hurdle in

hotel sale

Granada cleared another hur-

dle in its protracted sale of

Forte's Exclusive hotels yes-terday, selling New York's Ho-

tel Plaza Athenee on the Upper

East Side to TCC, a privately

owned Thai conglomerate that

operates the Imperial chain of

to £400m the gross value of the

Exclusive disposals, which have

been achieved at an aggregate

Granada also confirmed the

completion of the recently an-

nounced £90m disposal of two

Westbury hotels to Elliott Bern-

erd's Chelsfield property group.

nee follows recent speculation

that Granada was having diffi-

culty securing buyers for several

former Forte hotels. It recently

took the £350m Grosvenor

House hotel in London's Park

Lane off the market, claiming

it could achieve better value for

shareholders by keeping the

It is also thought the company

is struggling to find buyers for

two hotels in Italy and another

in Paris that would offer enough

to match book value. Granada has said it would rather keep ho-

Despite the reported prob-

lems. Granada has achieved

good prices on some of its dis-

posals, realising a total of £228m for its prestigious

George V hotel in Paris, the

Hyde Park in London and Bar-

bados's Sandy Lane, well above

their combined book value of

The latest disposal brings to

£1.3bn the total raised from asset sales since the £3.9bn takeover of Forte at the begin-

ning of 1996. These include the

Welcome Break chain of

motorway service stations for £476m, the White Hart chain of

hotels for £122m and Granada's

Still on the block remain a 68

per cent stake in the Savoy

Group, Browns Hotel in Lon-

don and a handful of hotels as

far afield as Warsaw's Hotel

Bristol and the King Edward in

During the bitter bid battle

for control of Forte, Granada

said it would raise £1.3bn by

September 1997.

stake in Alpha Airports.

hotel and improving it.

tels than cut prices.

The sale of the Plaza Athe-

premium to book value of

around £65m.

The sale, for £42.5m, brings

Tom Stevenson

City Editor

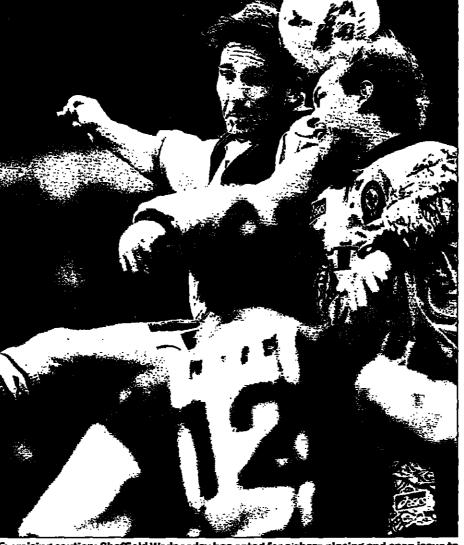
sector. It did not, he believed. foreshadow the beginning of the end for foothall flotations.

The sector is maturing and this is a process that any new emerging sector goes through," he said. "Previously, there was a rarity value to football clubs. Now we've got past the hype stage. People are evaluating the clubs as businesses."

Wednesday's caution could pay off in the long term, he said. In the largest single invest-ment in an English football club by a City institution, Charterhouse Development Capital Funds, part of Charterhouse Bank, is subscribing to £8.5m of the 85p shares, giving it a 20 per cent stake in the club. Charterhouse is also underwriting the issue and will buy up any shares not taken by the public.

The club has three classes of shares which are to be consolidated and traded though a matched bargain dealing facility operated by Charterhouse Tilney, also part of Charter-

Most of the funds raised will be used to buy new players. The rest will go towards improving the training ground, redevel-



Exercising caution: Sheffield Wednesday has opted for a share placing and open issue to raise £17m to buy new players and improve facilities Photograph: Barry Coombes/Empics

oping the Hillsborough stadium be buying the £2m player inand reducing bank borrowings. Mr Richards said: "We need

stead of the £6m player." Fears that football flotations to keep competing at the very had passed their high-water mark were heightened last week top level and unless we raise substantial cash it means we will when shares in Charlton Ath-

letic of the First Division collapsed on their first day of trading. Shares in other football clubs, including Birmingham City and Sunderland, are also

World of Leather shares leap on agreed £14m bid from UNO

Clifford German

UNO, the specialist retailer of upholstered furniture, yesterday acquired World of Leather, a smaller rival. in an agreed bid worth £14.3m, which the City thinks will create a more dynamic combination. Shares in UNO jumped by al-

most 10 per cent, although it will have to find at least £6m to fund a cash alternative for WOL directors who want out.

The deal brings together two companies from the opposite end of the soft furnishings world. UNO sells low-cost suites in the £1,000 range from 10 large sites while World of Leather's suites fetch around £2,000 from 31 much smaller

Active quarter for MBOs

The management buy-out market shrugged off uncertainties caused

by the impending general election to reach a record level of ac-tivity in the first quarter of the year, according to figures from

accountants KPMG. The value of MBOs and buy-ins reached £1.97bn, up 42 per cent on the same three months last year, while

the number of deals worth more than £10m – 29 – was also a record

for a time that is traditionally quieter than other periods. Among

the largest deals were the £476m buy-out of Welcome Break, the

£260m Castle Transmission Services deal and the £103m acqui-

Soros backs London Clubs bid

George Soros has thrown his weight behind London Clubs' hos-

tile £181m all-paper bid for rival casino operator Capital Cor-

poration. Mr Soros acts as the main investment adviser. Quantum Partners, which yesterday pledged its 2.72 per cent stake in Cap-

ital to London Clubs' bid. Total acceptances reached 2.88 per cent

Duimler-Benz rebounded from a record loss to a higher-than-expected 1996 net profit of DM2.8hn (\$1.67bn) as Germany's

largest company wrote off some costs of a record reorganisation.

Daimler, which had a record net loss of DM5.7bn in 1995, at-

tributed the increase in net profit in part "to the one-time effect of deferred taxes". Daimler proposes a DM1.1 dividend after skip-

Daimler-Benz bounces back

and the offer has been extended to 8 April.

Nestlé profits rise 17%

pany Danone rose 8 per cent to FF3.38bn.

Strong start for McKechnie

McKechnie, the engineering plastics and metal components group, warned about the effects of sterling's recent strength but said trading in the second half had started well. "The British construc-

tion and DIY markets, which account for 17 per cent of our sales.

are showing signs of recovery. McKechnie said. Pre-tax profits

Desmond Bloom has resigned as chairman and managing director of Premier Land and Lars-Erik Magnusson has been appointed

as Mr Bloom's successor. Mr Bloom will receive compensation

rose by 36 per cent to £28.1m in the six months to January.

Bloom leaves Premier Land

and benefits of one year's salary.

In Brief

sition of William Cook.

ping the pay-out in 1995.

UNO is offering 0.43542 of its new shares for each World of Leather share, valuing WOL at 118p based on UNO shares at

This represents a 41 per cent

premium to the market price on Monday, the day before WOL announced it was in bid discussions. UNO's shares subsequently jumped 24p to 295p. however, which now values the paper offer at 128p.
Richard Taylor, WOL's joint managing director and finance

director will join the UNO board, while the chairman Ramon Benardout, Michael Bernadout and the other joint managing director, Peter Sheldon, will stand down.

However, with the exception of Mr Sheldon, the WOL di-

rectors who control 42 per cent native cash offer of 108p rather than UNO's paper.

WOL has been in and out of the black in recent years but yesterday reported a 10 per cent increase in turnover to £32.2m and profit of £1.025m for 1996, compared with a £517,000 loss in 1995. It made a rights issue in 1994 to finance expansion but blames unfavourable market conditions and high site prices

for its sluggish performance. UNO made a profit before tax of £1.06m in the year to the end of April 1996 on a turnover of £24.2m, followed by a halftime profit of £306,000 in the six months to last November. It is now forecasting a profit of £2.8m before tax and excep-

tion for the year to April 1997. The terms value the combined businesses at over £50m and will give them 13 per cent of the leather upholstery market, which is expected to grow by 50 per cent over the next four years. UNO plans to invest in World of Leather, but the two businesses will continue to

operate in their own market sec-

tors, and retain separate fascias.

UNO's chairman and chief executive, Paul Rosenblatt, admitted the acquisition would dilute earnings in the current year but expects the deal to enhance earnings in 1998.

If the deal goes through UNO will seek to transfer from AlM to the main London mar-

Oftel warning to digital operators

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

Don Cruickshank, the telecommunications regulator, yesterday warned he would "pounce" on attempts by digital television services, such as those planned by BSkyB, to use the new technology to discriminate unfairly against the programmes of rival

programme makers. However, unveiling his final plans to regulate the multichannel digital television, it emerged that the regulator will have no power initially over a similar digital service planned by the cable companies. BSkyB and some cable operators aim to launch competing digital services later this year.

They could provide hundreds of channels, raising concerns that existing terrestrial broadcasters could see their offerings swamped. Programme makers have been concerned at the terms for accessing the "set-top boxes" which decode digital signals in the home.

Mr Cruickshank is writing to broadcasters and content providers requesting internal infor-mation on the planned services. "I'm anxious there are the makings of a very long, drawn out, negotiation here," he said. Electronic programme guides,

said Mr Cruickshank and could

be used to steer consumers to-

wards particular channels.

which act as computerised index systems, were "a big problem,"

ahead of rivals with

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

Next stays streets

12% rise in profits Text's chief executive, for the next few years it will scheme, sells quickly. A target David Jones, liked his soon have to start thinking company's latest set of

looked like a Liquorice Allsort, you could hardly blame him for putting on the style. The Next phenomenon runs on and on and the new fashion for bold-coloured men's shirts is just one area where Next has got its buying just right. There may be a feel-good factor in the economy but Next's results are still high streets ahead of rival retailers. Still worth holding.

Pre-tax profits were 12 per cent ahead at £158m and both the high street stores and the Next Directory catalogue are firing on all cylinders. Sales at the stores were 20 per cent ahead on increased selling space of 7 per cent. Next Directory achieved a 31 per cent sales increase and the performance in both areas has

results so much he set his

dark business suit off with a

vivid orange shirt in sartorial

celebration. No matter that he

continued into current trading. Next continues to squeeze higher sales per square foot from its high street space with the figure rising from £483 to £606 over the past two years. Analysts agree that there is still more to go for and the group will open 75,000 more square feet of space this year, representing a 7 per cent increase on the total.

Next may snap up some of the Littlewoods sites but is not going to bid for the whole

chain of 135 stores. The company is still treading carefully in France and the United States but is set to expand its franchise stores from 30 to 45 next year with more outlets in Japan, the Far East, the Middle East and Europe. With losses reducing in the US. Next hopes to generate profits of several million from its franchises in two or three years.

Another area of opportunity is financial services. Next has been talking to possible part-ners and is likely to make its first foray into the market in the next 12 months. Credit cards are likely to be the first product launch but Next seems keen on the M&S approach to the sector, which could mean PEPs and pensions too. This will be a useful add-on to Next's core business but is not likely to be a large profit contributor in the short term.

about a big strategic move if it is not to run out of steam. The £165m cash pile will provide a useful war chest.

There is little doubt that in a strong clothing market Next is the quality stock of the sector. The shares have per-formed amazing feats in the past five or six years and on analysts' profit forecasts of £186m for this year, they trade on a forward rating of 18 times. Though this sector is strewn with banana skins, this seems a deserved premium.

Expectations build at Barratt

Teither Sir Lawrie Bar-ratt nor his highly regarded chief executive, Frank Eaton, are prone to outbursts of enthusiasm but you didn't have to look too hard between the lines of vesterday's interim statement to realise the housing market is in rude health once more and Barratt in pole position to benefit from its recovery from

seven long years of recession. Profits of £24.8m, a 30 per cent rise, provided firm evi-dence that Barratt is well on track to dominate the volume end of the housing market again. It buys land well, builds on it efficiently and, thanks to popular part-exchange

of 11,000 houses a year seemed fanciful last year but now looks achievable, a fitting swan-song for Sir Lawrie, who at 70 is preparing for his second re-

Barratt has carved itself a good position in the Southeast, where the company reckons all the action is. Despite pouring cold water on recent forecasts of booming house prices, Barratt admits that in the capital at least prices are strong and it is as well placed as any to benefit from that.

Staging a £90m rights issue last May represented unbeatable timing, allowing Barratt to build its land bank at a sensible price. During the half-year land was bought at just 23.8 per cent of expected selling price, an impressive ratio that stores up potential profits. That reflects the company's skill in buying brown sites, land that had a previous use before being turned into housing plots.

Reservations running more than 20 per cent ahead of last year and advance contracts worth over £200m mean analysts' forecasts that profits will reach £68m this year and £81.5m next time should prove conservative. On those figures, the shares, which have moved sideways for a year after a stunning outperfor-mance since 1992, trade on a prospective p/e ratio of 14 falling to 11.5. At 266p, up 3.5p, they look good value.

Next: At a glance Market value: £2.3bn, share price 618.5p Trading record 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 9m - 1 1841 5442 6729 7736 9468 Pre-fax profits (£m) 38.9 73.5 197.4 141.9 158.8 20 78 22 115 Byldends per share (p) 250 550 9.00 11.75 15.00

Surge in poster ads boosts Maiden

aiden, the outdoor poster specialist which came to the market last May, in advertising spend in general and the popularity of big electronic outdoor poster sites in particular. Spending on the outdoor poster market grew 10 per cent last year and posters have increased their share of the display advertising market from 4.7 per cent in 1993 to 6 per cent, proving an effective competitor for TV.

Maiden's turnover surged by 51 per cent to £55.1m last year, and with margins rising from 16 to 17 per cent, operating profits before exceptionals leapt an impressive 62 per cent to £9.5m. Moving the head office created a £700,000 exceptional property charge but this was off-

set by a 45 per cent cut in interest charges to £1.7m, and profit before tax trebled to £6.85m. A leap in the tax charge held earnings per share before exceptionals to 13.6p and the group is paying a final dividend of 3.6p The results are below the optimistic £8m the

four broking houses who follow the stock had expected, but Maiden's chief executive, Ron Zeghibe, painted a glowing picture of prospects. With almost 26,000 sites, nearly 20 per cent of them illuminated, Maiden is one of the largest outdoor advertising companies and the market leader in the large format poster sector. The group spent over £4m on its sites last

year, including £1m on the illumination of 800 sites, £1.3m on a new network of back-lit sites and £800,000 on an acquisition. It recently signed an agreement with Safeway which will extend its presence in the small six-panel poster market. Yesterday it renewed its concession with Railtrack until March 2004.

Capital expenditure will at least equal last year's but analysts are still looking for a profit of £10-11m this year and earnings of 17-18p a share. The shares rose 7.5p to 324p yesterday, between 18 and 19 times forecast earnings for the current year. The outlook is bright but that rating factors in much of the good news.

Caradon hands back £174m to shareholders

Tom Stevenson

Caradon is to hand £174m back to its shareholders, in effect passing on the proceeds of last December's disposal of the building materials group's European engineering and dis-

News of the capital refund accompanied an 18 per cent rise in underlying profits last year to £178.2m which lifted the shares 3.5p to 257p despite a warning that trading so far in 1997 had been below expectations.

said difficult conditions for its plumbing, electrical and joinery businesses in 1995 continued into last year with the improvement in profits driven by cost reduction programmes that had offset volume reductions and lower prices.

cashflow meant the group could hand money back to shareholders without straining its Caradon with substantial fire-

balance sheet, which had £96m of net cash at the year-end. Even if the cash had already been handed back to shareholders by the balance sheet date, group gearing would have been a comfortable 19 per cent, the company said.

Caradon said it would effect the return by issuing a new class of "B" shares to existing ordinary and preference shareholders in return for replacing every 10 shares held with nine new ones, The "B" shares can be redeemed for cash between 20 May and 17 June.

Mr Jansen said Caradon had made cost savings of £66m through a reorganisation plan - ahead of its initial target of £50m. "That underpinned the strength of our performance in markets that were less good than we expected." Caradon expects to cut costs by an additional £25m-£40m in 1997. Mr Jansen said giving money

back to shareholders still left

power to make acquisitions and he singled out Germany, where the company already owns 80 per cent of Weru, the country's largest window and door maker. Continued sluggishness in European markets remained a problem. "1997 has started slowly, with trading in the early months generally below expec-

tations," Mr Jansen noted. In plumbing, Caradon reported flat operating profits of £37.4m after strong growth in UK radiator and boiler sales were offset by difficult trading on the Continent. The electrical division, where Caradon owns the MK plugs brand, saw a 14 per cent decline in profits to £35.2m, while profits from the

£4.7m profits from a £15m loss.

Company Results Timover £ Pre-tax £ EPS 83.4m (79.3m) 1.07m (-5.2m) 3.85p (11.62p) 31 m (277m) 24.8m (19 lm) 7p (6.5p) (F) 24.3m (21.9m) 0.74m (0.38m) 4.83p (2.41p) 11.9m (3.75m) -18.5m (-19.8m) -33.8p (-19.8p) 7.23m (6.98m) 0.57m (0.58m) 22.8p (25.7p) | 2.5 | (2.5 p) | 14p | 15p | 14p | 14p | 15p | 14p | 14p | 15p | 14p | 14p | 14p | 15p | 14p | 14p | 15p | 14p | (c) 10.3m (8.2m) 8 7p (7.8p) 5 5p (5.25p)
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The future's right here YOUR ONE-STOP BROKERAGE FOR THE WORLD'S FUTURES, OPTIONS AND FOREX MARKETS innco

Nestle, the world's largest food and beverage maker, saw 1996 net profits rise by almost 17 per cent, buoyed by growth in emerging markets and the strong dollar. Earnings at the producer of Nescalé instant coffee, Perrier mineral water and Alpo pet foods rose to a record SFr3.4bn (\$2.31bn) from SFr2.92bn a year ear-City Editor lier, the fifth increase in six years. The rise bettered that of Anglo-Dutch rival Unilever, whose 1996 earnings rose 13 per cent

to 3.7bn guilders (\$1.96bn), while not profit at French food com-Management moves at Mackie

Mackie, the engineering group, appointed Sul Sahota chief executive following the resignation yesterday of Peter Long. The executive chairman, Patrick Dougan, is also stepping down, allowing Roger Looker to resume the role of chairman. The mantribution business. agement changes came as Mackie posted a loss of £437,000 last year, versus a £3.3m profit in 1995.

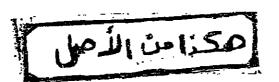
Peter Jansen, chief executive.

But he added that strong

structural and engineering arm were little improved at £22.3m.

The best performances came from security printing, where volume growth and cost reductions helped profits rise 13 per cent to £42.8m, and doors and windows, which swung into

حكدا من الاصل



market report / shares

Data Bank 4301.5 +30.8 FTSE 250 4568.6 +15.9³ FTSE 350 2122.9 +13.5 SEAQ YOLUME : 949.4m shares; 67,758 bargains Gifts Index

The Storehouse retailing chain suffered another analytical setback, cutting the shares 10p to 235.5p, lowest for two years. After being mauled by BZW and NatWest Securities this year the BhS and Mothercare group found itself the victim of an SBC Warburg profits downgrading. The securities house is thought to have lowered its estimates for the year ending on Tuesday by £4m to £118m. It appears poor children's clothing sales last month prompted Warburg to trim its

> Last year Storehouse produced £108.7m. Profit expectations for the retailer have, despite what appeared to be a reasonably encouraging Christmas trading statement, gradually been reduced. At one time there were hopes this year's figures would nudge £130m.

What has been described as

shares. In May they were rid-

ing at 361p.
The latest Storehouse dis-comfort occurred as Next, on results, jumped 22.5p to 618.5p and Marks & Spencer, re-

flecting Warburg support, put on 17.5p to 481.5p. The rest of the stock market for the second day running ignored election rumblings and higher interest rates. The US hike came as something of a re-lief. After intense speculation a rise of only one-quarter of a point, the first increase for two years, is regarded as comfortably containable.

Footsie, therefore, was at one time showing a 49.5-point advance. With New York dis-playing signs of hesitancy the gain was trimmed back to 30.8 points at 4,301.5 by the close. Banks managed to shrug off UBS caution. Barclays

support.

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

Storehouse smacks into 'wall of negative sentiment'

Energy Group, the Hanson being placed with institutions spin-off, was the best-per- at 52p. forming blue chip, gaining 18p to 489.5p on Goldman Sachs

EMI, on continuing competition worries, spun to a new low of 1.097.5p; at the time of the demerger last summer the price was 1.48op. Granada's £42.5m New York hotel sale left the shares 10p off at 918p.

Biocompatibles Interna-tional, the healthcare group, gained 67.5p to 1.157.5p. It has acquired the rights to develop new surface compounds which should extend the life of its own

24.5p to 1.101.5p as ABN Amro Hoare Govett hoisted a 1.260p valuation.

Avis, the car hire group, appeared in its when issued form, trading at 131.5p against a 124p launch. Whitehead Mann. a recruitment group placed at 136p, reached 144.5p. Glenchewton, the house-

hold goods group, announced the sale of its Country Style Inns chain for £10.75m. Buyer is the Old English Pub Co. The deal left Glenchewton

niture retailer, jumped 30p to 121.5p on the agreed £14.27m offer from UNO, up 24p at 295p.

Dunton, the bricks and

property group run by entre-preneur David Williams, returned to market after capturing Remote Metering Systems, which reads electricity meters remotely, in a £20m reverse takeover. The shares, placed at 100p for the deal, ended at 155.5p.

Princedale, where Hills-

down Holdings founder Sir Harry Solomon is an executive director, firmed 3p to 44p following the £3.6m sale of design and marketing operations. The company intends to concentrate on producing retail dis-play units. Simon Engineering improved 4p to 43.5p on takeover speculation and the feeling Dalgety could turn out

Oils were firm with Enterprise Oil, not for the first time, leading the pack. The shares rose 14.5p to 553.5p: British Borneo Petroleum Syn-

dicate flared 29p to 1.477.5p. Polydoc, one of the secondline operations with strong Dutch connections, gained 35p to 337.5p; the shares were 47.5p in January. The obscure software group was floated last summer by stockbroker Bell Lawrie White at 65p.

Thomas Jourdan, the mini conglomerate embracing the Corby trouser press subsidiary. moved ahead 4p to a 12-month peak of 54.5p. David Abell. who netted £10m when his Suter conglomerate was taken over by Ascot Holdings, has appeared on the share register. There have been reports he does not intend to bid but some speculators find it hard to be-

Ashurst Technologs, one of the more obscure AIM comgold adventure in the Ukraine. The company, which also has a Canadian quote, is

Taking Stock

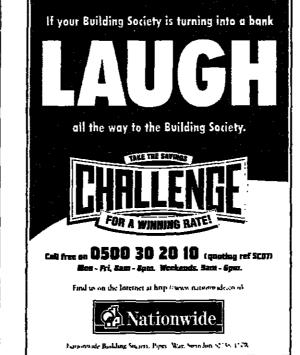
indicated reserves of between an astonishing 500 and 600 tonnes of gold. Other prospects are said to be avail-able. Besides its golden link

Ashurst, a company which seems remarkably shy and ofabout itself despite its AIM listing. is developing various

rallied 8p to 64.5p after de-claring it knew of "no reason" for the fall in its share next month. Last year it pro-

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Mainstream economics needs to get a firm grip on reality

"Surely it is only a group of men who could have produced on being the "hard" and persisted with the absurdity that is mainstream economists boast that it is based nomics?" he says. He charges on numbers and mathematical analysis, and gets to that economics misinterprets grips with reality in a way in the nature of reality, misunwhich the "soft" social sciences such as sociology derstands the way we find out about reality and uses inapand political science can not. propriate methods for its ex-It is odd, then, that ecoploration.

cause every agent is behaving in a well-defined way.

this does not allow economists

to explain why men and

women, say, or employers and employees, might behave dif-ferently. Economics can only

assume they have different

preferences; it cannot explain

them. Based on building up

from individual agents and

their preferences, it cannot handle the fact that a lot of

people's economic choices are

based on their social positions

- that they are a worker rather

than a boss, a student and not

that mainstream economics

completely misrepresents re-

ality, it follows

that the notion

that an econo-

mist just has to

collect and in-

If you accept this argument

Professor

Lecturer

Total

Researcher

Social sciences

Reader/srir lecturer

a teacher, female not male.

Dr Lawson points out that

Take the nature of reality nomics cannot easily accommodate some pretty basic first. Economics is based on "rational agents" - individuals features of reality, such as the or companies - maximising fact that there are two different types of people, women and their own individual well-being according to fixed rules. They men. Or perhaps this is not so act by themselves in their own surprising, given the fact that interest. This is what allows the economists regard words like bigger, firmer and higher as unconstruction of precise mathqualified terms of praise. For ematical models of behaviour. it turns out to be a pretty It permits economists to predict that if event X happens then event Y will follow bemacho sort of subject all round.

Take the numbers of women and men in the profession itself. A survey carried out by the Royal Economics Society. whose results were presented at its annual conference this week, found that females are in a minority. Just over a quarter of undergraduate and postgraduate students of the subject are women. They make up less than a fifth of the total number of academic economics staff in our universities, and the female-male ratio falls sharply the higher up the pro-motional ladder you look.

According to Professor Denise Osborn of the University of Manchester, who chaired the RES working party: "The more prestigious the economics department, the lower the proportion of women at senior level."

The ratio of women economists to men is also less than a fifth in the government economic service and about one in seven in economics jobs in

data falls by the business (mainly the City). wayside too. Does this imbalance matter Economists tend any more than it does elseto venerate stawhere in our unequal society? tistics as admit-The answer is yes, according to tedly imperfect Tony Lawson, a Cambridge snapshots of the economist and author of a reality out there book critical of the subject's they try to modphilosophical foundation.* el. The main-



DianeCoyle

Economists believe that without a wider acceptance of

the place of history and culture, the profession is digging its own grave

stream does not accept that the very information collected, and the resources put into it, is part of what their social science should be analysing.

Take a matter of particular interest to us female agents, housework. This is a big part of reality. Although it is usu-

The battle of the sexes

Academic economics staff, 1995

600

2578

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency

619

1142

264

190

2574

3673

purposes at around £20,000 a year. Yet there are no economic statistics on the amount of housework carried out in the UK. Economists do not incorporate it in their theories of labour supply or consumer spending, although it plays a part in wives' - and husbands - decisions whether to work and for how many hours, and in family income and spending.

The UK's admirable Office for National Statistics is starting work on collecting data on how people use their time, which will include housework. But this is an innovation certainly not driven by the economics profession. The final implication of Dr

Lawson's criticism is that economics uses the wrong methodology. Thinking of economic phenomena as the result of individual actions by atomistic agents, researchers focus on questions like: what underlying factors explain the growth and distribution of incomes over time? They might assemble data on incomes, educational qualifications, national GDP growth and so on. But the more interesting question might be: why are the incomes of the skilled rising relative to the unskilled? Or, perhaps, why do men earn more than women on average?

There is a parallel with biol-

Females as %

41.2

ogy, where the interesting ques-tion is not why one type of corn has a yield of so much, but why it is greater than a different

breed's yield. Mainstream economists are wedded to their methodology, feeling that to accept that economic outcomes depend on gender or culture or the path of

ally unpaid, insurance companies estimate the value of work subject's authority. And I think economists are right to argue that their approach does give the subject an intellectual discipline and respect for facts that is not as widespread in the "soft" social sciences. But more and more practitioners, including most of the minority of women, believe that without a wider acceptance of the place of history and culture, the profession is digging its own grave.
It is clear, for example, that

national economic performance depends on what the US academic Robert Putnam has called social capital - on having a stable legal framework and according to his study, southern Italy has performed so much worse than the north despite receiving bucketloads of subsidy. It is why aid to developing countries has such a mixed record. It might help explain the UK's comparative economic decline. Economists consign its study to the sociologists, but in doing so undermine their own ability to explain.

In a damning paper in the Journal of Economic Perspec-tives in 1987, David Colander and Arjo Klamer reported an analysis of the process of educating and training economists in US universities. Most graduate students, they found, had they were interested in matters of public policy and wanted to understand economic phenomena. The authors reported: "Graduate economics education is succeeding in narrowing

students' interests. Perhaps the birth of feminist economics and the profession's new women's committee marks the beginning of the end for the subject's reliance on analysing the "rational eco-nomic agent". The male diehards will no doubt mutter that irrationality is just typical

* Economics and Reality, Routledge, £16.99.

Football team may have met its match in the City

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

Sheffield United has challenged the press, analysis and institutions to a football match. The club threw down the gauntlet when it announced its interim results earlier this month, and the showdown is set for Thursday 17 April. One of my colleagues will play, while the list for the Sheffield team should be completed by the end of the week.

The match is being organised by City spin doctor Brunswick, which says it wants to see which journalists and City types dare to play before finalising the Sheffield line-up. Whether Sheffield's manager, Howard Kendall, will agree to subject first team players such as Mitch Ward and Dane Whitehouse to the rough and tumble of the City's hard tackling remains to be seen. Perhaps they could invite

actor Sean Bean, United's number one fan, or recall Seventies midfield maestro Tony Curtie out of retirement. Watch this space. Regular readers will know

that Sam Jaffa is leaving the BBC after 16 years to become head of pr at Price

Mr Jaffa was celebrating his last hours at the Beeb on Tuesday night with chums in a wine bar at the back of Broadcasting House. So overcome was Mr Jaffa that he failed to notice TV hellraiser Chris Evans and two pals taking advantage of Mr Jaffa's free bar.

Mr Evans, sporting a bizarre red, white and blue hat, helped himself to free bottles of Beck's before disappearing into an alcove to cram himself with tortilla chips. Mr Jaffa's pals were relieved to see, however, that Mr Evans later paid for the

No sooner has John Craven retired as chairman of Mor-



Sheffield United's number one fan: Actor Sean Bean

gan Grenfell than that nemesis of MG's asset management arm, Nicola Horlick, pops up on a 'fantasy investment game" at the BBC World Service this weekend. Those in the know expect Ms Horlick to forecast a 2,000-point correction for the Dow and to recommend putting all your cash into Japan and Taiwan. I am assured that Deutsche Bank will not be discussed.

When CGA Group, a home and car insurance company, went bust last week not many people realised its historical connection with the Country

Happily, the apple-cheeked landed gentry who form the association's membership will not be affected by the re-ceivership, since CGA, which grew up as the insurance arm of the association, parted

company many years ago. Churchill Insurance was happy to snap up CGA's 100,000 policies this week from the receivers Ernst & Young for a reputed pittance. The association, meanwhile,

ciation is based in Baldock, Hertfordshire, but was founded in Letchworth. It was set up as the wealthy farmer's equivalent of the Co-op, when some clever toff realised it would be far cheaper for him and his chums to team together to buy five-bar gates, water troughs and the like, than to

buy such items individually. Soon the association was selling stuff on and built a warehouse in Letchworth. It is now mainly a membership association with a monthly magazine and the Letchworth head office is a housing estate. But the association enjoys better health than its offspring

Robin Hardy, construction analyst at Panmure Gordon, is keen to put the record straight about last Friday's story in this column that calls to his number were met by a rendition of the French folk song Frère Jacques, with no beep for a message.
"I was with my wife who was having a baby." says Mr

Hardy. Sounds like an impeccable reason to me. The result was a daughter, Isabel. Mr Hardy returned to

work on Monday to find 15 rather long messages on his Mr Hardy didn't even know it played Frère Jacques until the article appeared: "It's just a standard BT

answerphone." Undeterred by its £77m mispricing blooper, Martin Owen's NatWest Markets continues its quest for global domination with three new

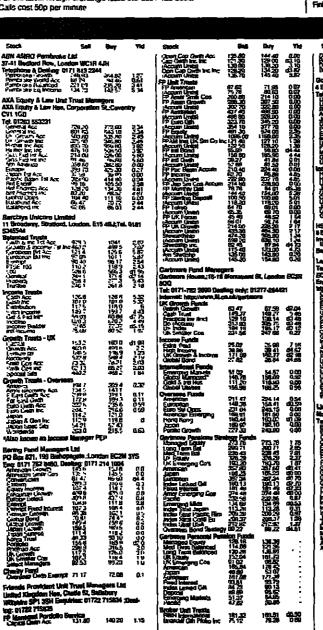
European hires. in come Geert Jan A Leest, 37, from MeesPierson NV, William Pavone, 36, from Barclays de Zoete Wedd, and Robert Wallin, 37, from Skanska AB.

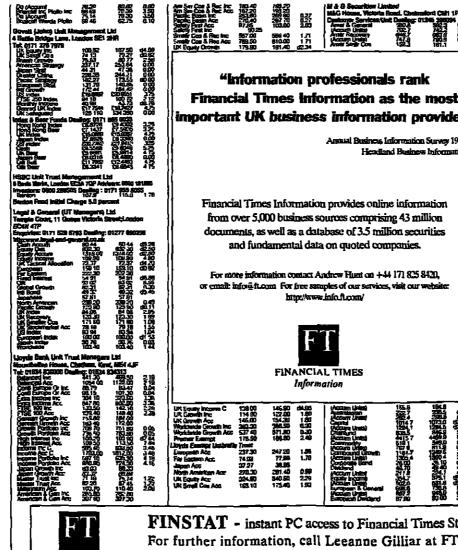
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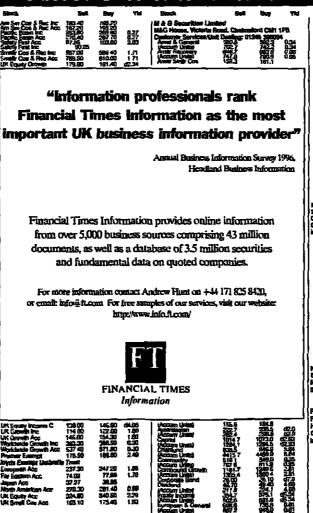
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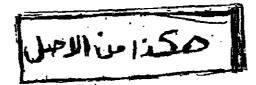




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sport

Thoroughbreds shaded by clouds and camels

GREG WOOD

reports from Dubai

When you see a lake in the desert it can generally be writ-ten off as a mirage, but there was nothing ethereal about the huge puddles around the Nad Al Sheba race-track here yesterday morning. The previous evening's call to prayer had al trainers were peering glumly also summoned up a thunder- at the results yesterday. storm of biblical proportions which raged throughout the it's yery deep," Mark Tompkins, night, depositing so much water on this normally bone-dry city that some started to question whether Saturday's Dubai of it." Another with evident con-World Cup might succumb to

the elements. A little alarmist, perhaps, but the managers at Nad Al Sheba were sufficiently concerned by the state of the dirt course to place it off-limits for morning exercise. Exercise gallops took place instead on the tight turf circuit inside the dirt track, with the European runners Singspiel and Helissio among those cantering at a

we hope - stage Saturday's 10furlong event is chemically sealed, which provides a measure of resistance to rain. No one, however, could have planned for a storm of such magnitude - standing on one side of a modest Dubai street, it was all but impossible to see the other through the descending waterfall - and sever-"Out by the two-furlong pole

who will saddle Even Top on Saturday night, said. "The kickback will be bad, great dollops cerns was Takao Nakano, the chain-smoking 56-year-old Jap-anese trainer of Hokuto Vega, the mare who will take a 10-race winning streak into Saturday's race. "She's the top dirt horse in Japan," Nakano said, "but I'm worried about the track getting sloppy because we race on a much firmer surface at home. Because of that we decided not to send her out today."

Another downpour like Tuesday's on the night before the

race would almost certainly mean cancellation, and when the latest weather forecast from air-traffic control included a severe weather warning, at least one member of the Cup Committee was musing about the possibility of postponement. His conclusion was that the logistics of bringing horses, con-nections and media to Dubai from six countries are such that a postponement of even 24 hours might well be impractical. It was only a little later, when the warning was rescinded, that

the anxiety began to wane.

Few trainers are more aware of the course's idiosyncrasies than Kiaran McLaughlin, Dubai's champion trainer for the last two seasons, who will saddle Key Of Luck in the big race this weekend. "This track doesn't handle the rain quite as well as you would like," McLaughlin says, but if there's no more it will be fine".

The American, a former assistant to D Wayne Lukas, is an important figure in Sheikh Hamdan's bloodstock operation, and has spent the winter
taking care of some of the most
taking care of some of the most

year-olds. Shaya and Sarayir, who may be targeted at the Derby and Oaks respectively, are two to look out for after their imminent return to Dick Hem's stable, while Khassah, a potential 1,000 Guineas filly, will be returning to John Gosden. In time. McLaughlin expects many more of Sheikh Hamdan's hors es to winter in Dubai, in an attempt to match the enormous success of the Godolphin operation set up by his brother. Sheikh Mohammed.

colours carried into the frame in yesterday's big race here, but the jockeys were far smaller than Pat Eddery or Frankie Det tori (or even Willie Carson), and their mounts are unlikely to be appearing at the Craven meeting. The Rulers' Cup, the country's most prestigious camel race, was won by an animal from Qatar, but since no-one seemed to know its name, and betting is strictly forbidden, it is fair to say that the spectacle was more important than the result.

Both brothers saw their



since the course is seven miles round, and camels are not quite so fleet of foot as thoroughbreds, the spectators had plenty of time to ponder such nagging questions as where.

precisely, the field was. The distant glint of metal

Nad Al Sheba's carnel track, but cade offered the only, occa-back (the jockeys are aged besional clue, though it was quickly clear from the closedcircuit television that the pride of Qatar was going ominously well in front. The form book comment would have read "soon led, stayed on well from six miles out", and the constant fied within the first 100 yards.

truth - over a single circuit of from its accompanying motor- attentions of the child on his tween seven and 11) ensured that he would not be stopping up the long - incredibly long -home straight. If Nad Al Sheha's stewards employed the British "six hit" rule, every runner would have been disquali-

money, and the dubious reward for the winning camel was to have his head and neck daubed with essence of saffron. For the next month or two this will prove to anyone who meets him that he is the fastest camel in the country. Not to mention the one with the strangest hairdo.

ASCOT

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2-30: 1. SULTARA (B. Posed) 11-4 (£15);
Who is Foulthame 41: 3. Rail-Mountain

2. Who is Equiname 4-1: 3. Ballydougan 50-1. 8 ran. 11-4 pt fav Enterior Profiles (fell).

.. dist. (I Williams, Aston Rowert). Total 43 60: £1.20, £1.40, £8.10, 0F £6.00, CSF

Club may go for the doctor after McCoy case

The Jockey Club may seek to commenced by Turner last sumprovide its own medical staff at mer. "The difficulty is that if you racecourses in the wake of the have qualified people with clear Tony McCoy incident. Tracks instructions, it is reasonable to make their own arrangements expect them to carry out those with local medical practitioners, instructions, and the instructions as was the case with Uttoxeter in this case were perfectly and Dr Andrew Toman, who er-roneously signed McCoy off Jockey Club public affairs, said. for 10 days, increased to 21 by the Club's chief medical officer Dr Michael Turner on Monday,

after a fall eight days ago.

LEICESTER

2.10 Moonshiper

2.40 Northern Fan

sion of doctors at courses by the

financial implications, but it is a possibility.

clerk of the course. David McAllister, and Turner dealing with the McCoy incident are also expected by Tony Good-hew, the Club's director of head and we don't want blood. racecourse services, within the next fortnight.

Dave Robert's, McCoy's

agent, has offered his co-operation to ensure a similar situation to McCoy's does not arise again. "The main thing is that made a rick, and that happens."

the whole thing is not swept un-der the carpet, "Roberts said. "It Reports from the Uttoxeter is a serious mistake and it is no good saving everyone's sorry and then allowing the whole thing to be forgotten about.
"We don't want someone's

We just want the Jockey Club to do something to make sure this kind of thing doesn't happen again. Nobody is invincible and everybody makes mistakes. Someone at the Jockey Club has

Punters jump on Band wagon

Suny Bay. Smiths Band and Time For A Run were the horses supported yesterday for the Grand National on Saturday week, while Chris Maude has been engaged to ride Dextra

With Richard Dunwoody booked to ride Smiths Band for Jenny Pitman and Jamie Osborne linking up with Suny Bay, punters had an incentive to support that pair. Suny Bay is now 10-1, from 14-1, with Ladbrokes, while Smiths Band

HYPERION

is 16-1, from 25-1, with the same firm. J P McManus's Time For A Run, already backed with big money, has been cut to 12-1, from 16-1, by Coral. The firm took one bet of £1,000 at 16-1.

Simon Earle snapped up Chris Maude's services for Dextra Dove after being delighted with the 10-year-old since he put up a lifeless display in the Racing Post Chase at Kempton last month.

"He's come back from some physio on his shoulders and race on 9st 13lb.

is 100% now," Earle enthused, "Go Ballistic is favourite for the National but I think we had him beaten when he fell in the Agfa Chase at Sandown and he's had his excuses since.

back with Mary Bromiles and

"I'm pleased we've got Chris to ride because he gets on well with the horse and has always done an excellent job for us." Dextra Dove, a 33-1 shot for the National with William Hill.

is 1lb out of the handicap for the

204050- TROPICAL BEACH (142) (CD) J Berry 4 9 9 .. C Lowther (7) 3

11 :003;20 QUEENS CHECK (103) (CD) Mess J Crass 4 A 9S Webster 8 (

14 301436 SUNSET HAREOUR (210) (D) 5 Ketteres 4 d 7 J Fortone 7

- 14 declared -BETTING: 4-1 Zain Dancer, 5-1 Gl La High, 6-1 Chemcast, 8-1 Leading Princets, Red Romance. 10-1 Tropical Beach, Lunch Party, 12-1 others

3.50 STONEYBANK MEDIAN AUCTION MAID-EN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 1m 4f

4040-50 PICARD (2) F Murphy 4 9 13

(0x)-2 STRETCHING (24) = 3a/n 4 9 13....

00400- NORDIC GIFT (251) Mrs D Thomson 4 9 13 . O Pears (3) 5

BETTING: 6-4 Stretching, 3-1 Mountaineer, 5-1 Abajany. 6-1 Kathryn's Pet, 12-1 Pacard. Thesh Again, 16-1 Northe Eith

4.20 MAYFIELD SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS G) £3,000 added 1m

12 243055 WESTERN VENTURE (131) 8 Mcrete 3 9 2. T Williams 1
12 243055 RATTLE (251) D Rolan 4 9 1. P Fessey (5) 13
13 6-6111 SOLDER COVE (13) (6) 4-12-20 7 9 0 . D Sweensy (6) 9
14 602000 FLAKY (38) D Norths 4 2 0 . Alex Greaves 8
14 declared -

~ 14 declared -~ 14 negared — RETTING: 3-1 Sobiler Cove, 9-2 Evening in Paris, 5-1 Sheraz. 6-1 Sounds Legal, 10-1 Termon, Diet, 14-1 others

30416-0 RUNNING GREEN (62) (D) D Motat 6 9 10...

THENNA AGAIN P Crags 3 B ? 1 Charmock 1

3.35; 1. ROSENCRANTZ (R Johnson) 100-30; 2. Mister Rm 6-4 fac; 3. Fourth in Line 14-1, 6 ran. 7, 3 Mes V Williams, Horstonic Toto: £3.50; £1.70, £1.60, DF. £3.00 CSF £7-79, MP; Non Virrage, 4.10; 1. TRIBBINE IM Foster 100-30; 2. Runaway Pete 13-2; 3. Tamarpour 4-1, 7 ran. 11-4 for Hale Dermig (JUN. 17), 2%, G. Thornton, Middleham), Toter £3.80; £2.10, £2.30, DF: £9.10, CSF: £20,29, 4.45; 1. POORS WOOD Mr T McCarthy 5-1; 2. Quiet Confidence 15-8 for 3. Gambling Royal 33-1, 9 ran. 2%, 5, 65 Breen, Headdey, Toter £5.30; £1.70, £1.70, £5.70. DF: £7,40, CSF £12,99 Tna: £105,70

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Kathryn's Pet (Musselburgh 3.50) NB: Return Of Amin (Leicester 4.10)

5.15: 1. GATFLAX (M keighter) 15-2; 2. Dragon King 16-1; 3. Royal Pot Black 8-1. Tan. 7-4 fav Spirt of Steel. 12; 7: IN Twiston-Davies, Chefrenhami, Totte: 55-90. 52:70; 54-90; 52:50. Dr. 572-30; CSF-£114.04 Tno: £582.20 (part won, po £492 02 to Musselburgh 3.20 today). Placepot: £60.50. Quadpot: £13 50. Place 6: £56.12. Place 5: £13 60.

CATTERICK 2.20: 1. (OCH-HURN (ADV (K Date)) 7-2: 2. Sode 11-2: 3. Gold Edge 7-1. 8 ran. 3-1 (av keen To Please. 3. 1-6. (K Hogg, Isle of Man) Toter (4-20, £1-20, £1-10, £2-20. DF: Mani Toter 24.70; £1.20, £1.10, £2.20, DF: £20.70; CSF: £22.60.
2.50: 1. ABSTONE QUIEEN () F Egan; 7-2 it tax, 2. Loch Style 15-2; 3. Sowiet Lady 11-2, 13 ran, 7-2 it tax Six Sixer So; (5b), 4, 15, 47, 0 Exass, Weishpools, Toter 55.00; £1.60, £3.40, £2.10, DF: £24.70, CSF, £29.68, Tno, £39.00, NR, Mystic Rand

3.25; 1. FOIST (I. Chamock) 3-1 lav; 2. 3.25: 1. FURT II. CHOMOCKI 3:1 187: 2. Gulf Staadii 33-1: 2. Rambo Weltzer 6-1: 4. Genuine John 16-1. 19 ran. 1, ... IM W Easterbyl. Tota: £3.40: £1.40. £8.10. £2.10. £5.50. £7: £166. 40. £57: £121.51. Thrasy: £576.98. Tro: £504.60 (pan won. pool of £227.47 in Marselburgh 3.20 (oday) 3.55: 1. THREE FOR A POUND is Corten 7:0: 2. Maryldybora 7-4 tay 3. Merrity 4-1. 7-2: 2. Marylethone 7-4 ray: 3. Merrily 4-1. 9 ran. 2%, 2. d Gover, Woolsoop, Total: 55, 40; £1,80, £2,00, £2,20 DF: £7,80, CSF: £9,59, Tno; £19,40.

4.30: 1. DANCING CAVALIER (Flynch) 5-1 4.36: 1. DANCING CAVALIER # Lyrch 5-1 tav 2. Summerhiti Special 33-1: 3. Embryodic 8: 1-13 ran. 1%, 3%. (# Holimshead. Upper Longtom, Tote: 56.90: £1.90. £1.50, £1.60. 0F: £12.80. 0SF, £16.83. Tincast: £1.214.03. Tno: £553.10 tpan won, pool of £703-87 to Musselburgh 3.10 today. 5.08: 1. UTILE #CORN IX Darky 9-4 fay. 2. Kingdom Pearl 20-1: 3. Amico 6-1. 6 ran. 6. 2. 15 Williams, Newmarkett, Tote: £3.10: £2.40, £3.80. £1.10. DF: £31.10. CSF: £43.25. Tincast: £19.96. Placeport: £716.20. Quadport: £17.90. Place 6: £88.79. Place 8: £27.11.

FOLKESTONE 2.10: 1. LADY MOLL 4. Detron 2-1 fav; 2. Conectis 7-1; 3. Corol Grimes 6-1, 10 ran, 3, 1 · · · (P Boss). Tote: £3,40; £1,10, £2,60, £2 50, Dr. £36,30, £57; £16,63, Tro 136,70, Non Punner: Lisa's Pride, 2.40: 1. MALIBU MAN (T Syroke) 9-4 lav. 2. Dande Flyer 6-1: 3. College Night 8-1. 12 van. 3. 1%. Æ Wheeler: Tobe: £3.00; £1 50, £2.10, £2.30, DF, £14.50, CSF, £14.57, Tracas: £58.69, Too: £32.90. 3.15: 1. WEE DRAM (Dane O'Neth 6-1: 2. John Emms 5-6 lav; 3. Moon Song 12

2. John Emmis 5-6 tay; 3. Moon Song 12-1, 11 mm, 2-1, 3-1, 18 Hannon, Tota: 62-0; 11 50, 61-10, 62-250, 09: 57-0; CSF, 611, 38. The £32-50, 09: 57-0; CSF, 611, 38. The £32-50, 34-61, 1 SHARPO WASSI, MI Hake 5-1, 2. Masterpiece 9-2, 3. Sharp Temper 4-5 fav. 14 ran. 1, 17. W Haggast Tota: 25-40; 62-60, 62-20, 61-50, 09: 129-90, CSF, 632-09. Thos: 616-70. 4-20: 1, KEDWICK (T Quanti 9-1; 2. Eurobus Boy 11-1, 2. South Eastern Find 9-2, 15-1, Phedgen, Tota: £13-00; £5-30, £3-00, £3-10, DF: £124-00, CSF, £107-36, Incast, £492-66, Inc. £209-20.

£482.66. That £209.20. 4.55; 1. SHARP 'N SMART (A Daly) 14-1;

4.55: 1. SHARP 'N SMART (4.02h) 14-1; 2. Victory Team 6-1; 3. Scathebury 14-1; 4. Sound The Trumpet 33-1; 18 mar. 2-1 to: Greatest. 1-, 1-7; 18 Smart: Totte: 19.00. 65. 80, 22.80, 64.30, 65.20. 0F 613-30. CSF, £102.27 Incast: £1.205.71. 5,25: 1. TASIK CHIM (T Ounn) 9-4 p lay;

2. Herbshan Dancer 15-2, 3, Classic Mystery 9-2, 6 ran. 9-4 ji tav Olver (40), 10: 50, (P. Cole), Totes: £2,50, £2,00, £3,70, IP: £6.90 CSF; £18.05, Jackpot: not won (£10,287.32 to Leicester

¥ THE INDEPENDENT

RACING SERVICES 0891 261 LIVE COMMENTABLES DESULT 981 MUSSELBURGH 972 982 LINGFIELD 973 0891 261

"Michael Turner is compiling his report and making consultations, and there are a number of options, including the provi-

4.10 7aima

and instructions at courses was

Jockey Club. It has considerable HYPERION

4.40 Broughtons Turmoil

3.10 Prince Danzig 5.10 Dust Dancer GOING: Good to Pirm (Good in places).
STALLS: beside: DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low from 5f to 1m.

Right-hand, undulating course, with a straight rule.

Course is 2m SE of city off A6. Leivester station (London, St. Pancras - Stieffield line)
2m. ADMISSION: One encirsure 59 (OAPs 55). Free recovering. CAR PARK: Free, Silver Ring Car Park - \$12 admits car and four occupants.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: R Harmon — 27 winners from 150 runners

gives a success ratio of 17.1% and a profit to a 21 level state of 555.36; J Dran 21 winners, 115 runners, 18.3%, -50.96; M Byan — 13 winners, 88 runners, +551.83; P Cole — 12 winners, 98 runners, 12.2%, -541.93. bild the state of the state of

WINNESS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS, None.

LONG-DESTANCE BUNNESS: Shakateso (3.40) & Kewarra (4.10) have been sent 183
miles, is B B Billman from Kentishear, Bevon.

2	.10	BESCABY MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,9 1m Penalty Value £3,646	00 added 3YO
1	5-	BUSBLY (232) (Lord Swayshing) J Dunlop 9 0	X_Destay ?
2	·=	MAJESTY (High Prince Fahr) Salmen) P Cole 9 0	T Quán n 8
j	022-	MOCKSHINER (USA) (189) (Baron G von Ultrann) G Wing 9 0	
4		PEN FREEND (8 Hagesu W Hages 9-0	
5	5-0	SIBOR STAR (10) (Terry Proce) D Burchell 9 0	
6	45-	SIR TALBOT (169) (Mrs. F Percy-Davis) R Hannon 9 0	Pat Eddary 5
7	_	SOLAR STORM (T F Harres M Bel 9 0	
8	3-7	TITTA RUFFO (6) (BF) (Mano Lambarch) 8 Meeten 9 0	

- 8 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Titta Raffs, 11.4 Moonstaner, 5-1 Majesty, 6-1 Babbiy, 7-1 Pon Riend, 8-1 Sir Telxxx, 10-1 Solar Stores, 68-1 Silver Star 1986: Royal Canasina 3 9 0 R Hughes 10-11 (D Loden 12 can

PORM GLIDE

Paul Cole won the fittes' maiden (feythorpe Stokes) with a Fahd Salman newcomer, Omna, in 1994 and it is likely that Majesty, in the same ownership, will go well in this. But, being by Sadler's Wells out of the Blushing Goom mane Princess Timide, it is possible that Majesty will need more of a stamina test before he starts winning, especially as he was apparently too backward to run at two. Pen Friend and Solar Storms are the other newcorners and both had from yards capable of producing a first-time winner, but TITTA RUFFO ran on with real gissto when second to Zaresta over Domzaster's seven furbrings last Friday and protoably did well to finish less than a length behind the winner given that he was held up at a stearby-run race. He shapes as if the suba furbring will suit him, although there is a fair for displace in his pediatee, and he shaped well on his sole output last were when that in on of pace in his pedigree, and he shaped well on his sole outing lest year when third in Decont's Salisbury maiden 17th in October after being checked twice. Builbily, who was a ABORT 3 Salestruy interest for a seven-funding Kempton makken last August but will man-lay foel, proved short of pace in a seven-funding Kempton makken last August but will man-aged a promising sigh of 12 to Baread, Sir Talibot, who ran twice within a week last Octo-ber, is by Ardross and could be one for middle-distance handicaps, while Moonshiner, our fing, might wet be tuned up for this but is difficult to assess. He chased home Wolf and at York on his final outing.

2.40 BILLESDON SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) (DIV I) £2,500 added 7f Penalty Value £2,077 7f Pencetry Valure £2,077

53(25) MORTHERI FAN (10) Specifin Group! N Tinter 5 9 12

04(00) BACHRISTER (20) (P.S. Marcel) Synthesis 5 9 7

04(00) CERSEPRA, (20) (P.S. Marcel) Synthes 9 7

05(00) RAFTER-) (400) (N. Mean) John A Harts 6 9 7

05(00) SAMERIN BALE (20) (N. Mean) John A Harts 6 9 7

05(16) BAS AND A BIT (25) (D) (Internet Record) N Babbage 4 9 2

50(16) DHES-C (40) (N. Mean) R Hodinsteed 4 9 2

0 LAST KORANTE (29) (S G Pescock) T But 4 9 2

000-0 MBW RESIDEE (SE) (Mes Judi Aramon P Delay 492 SINGE RESIDEE (SE) (Mes Judi Aramon P Delay 492 SINGE RESIDEN, AVS May Problemes W Brisbourie 4 9 2 000 PATRICK (LID) (T R Pearson) D Burdel 3 8 5 - 12 doctared - 19 Berrande 2-1 Bag Anti A Bit, 11-4 First Gold, 7-2 Northern For, 16-1 Backbander, Refler-i, 14-1

BETTIME: 2-1 Bag Ant A Bit, 11-4 Flast Sold, 7-2 Northern Fee, 10-1 Betchander, Ratter-1, 14-1 Dise-2, Southern Bide, 20-1 othern 1998: Cycarde 5-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 U Harrs) 11 ran 1998: Cycarde 6-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 U Harrs) 11 ran 1998: Cycarde 6-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 U Harrs) 11 ran 1998: Cycarde 6-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 U Harrs) 11 ran 1998: Cycarde 6-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 U Harrs) 10 ran 1998: Cycarde 6-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 U Harrs) 10 ran 1998: Cycarde 6-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 U Harrs 10 ran 1998: Cycarde 6-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 Cycarde 6-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 Cycarde 6-9 T G Duffeld 6-1 Cycarde 6-1 C

3.10 KINGFISHER HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,100 added 1m 3f 183yds Penalty Value £3,344

1	Ι,	41.653	PRINCE DANCES (14) (D) IA H UT-14 D Marray Smith 6 9 10M HBs 2
1		41-3337	Printed Day of the Parish St. Com. 400 Dec Parish 3
	12	0.00060.	SHARES SCOTT (283) (Act and Green Free Persons) M Page 4 9 8
ш			
1	[]	606164	JUMP THE LIGHTS (\$10) (D) (A Craste.) S Woods 4 95
4	ΙΔ.		
3		TAKONU	Properties and the Control of the Street Str
1	15	4111221.	REASANGESQUE (ASA) (223) (U) (Vis. John Spelmen) P Marphy 5 9 1
1	ā		
1		DEPOSIT	ON THE WILLIAM (245) IS IT STATED IN THE STATE IN THE STA
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Ų	1:		
	13	-31311	LINCOT SOLE (1) 951-7 TRANSPORT OF THE STATE OF THE SOLE (3) 5 TO THE GOOD (4) 1 5 TO THE SOLE (4) 1 5 TO
ł	9		
		200	TOTAL STREET OF THE PARTY OF TH
	L 10	4000a0 n	ROMANTIC WARRIOR (23) 15.3 Harrison May A Ring 4 7 10 Decien O'Shen 10 MAY KING MAYNESH (23) 15.3 Harrison May A Ring 4 7 10 Benderal 1
	1 22		
ľ		munit.	NAY (BRG INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMPANIE (138), M. 1507 C. 1587 37 10 9 Bardwell 1 (138), M. 1507 C. 1587 37 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10
ı	1 12	DOM:	PROCESS OF PORT DIS MISS E 1 THE DIS Y PORTERS OF BUILDING
	,	44.0	- 12 declared -

Sense Script will entire partly of purious state of not look much father than trainer-jock-sense Script will entire partly of purious state of not look much father than trainer-jock-sense Script, Part Edder; once the macessass withher for Martin Pipe, but they have teamed at partly of scripts looked in good order when second to Tappe for scripts look the sense sept threse two clears and a could be lathed in a master martle at thirtistrion three weeks sept threse two clears and an outside had serviced some sense for the Fat, He can be best race for Michael had serviced some martin at 12 at 12-fathing heraticips here. Lindy Blue will be worth Rel lest season when such of 15 at 12-fathing heraticips had. In The MONEY, who has noting back they hardles with his sharper state that has been so that the heraticips of which a decent channes with this select the sports on the sharestaffer, is braiding possible with a decent channes on his order to the select that the sport a 16-father handlespect with a decent channes on his order to the select that he sport a 16-father handlespect with a decent channes on his order to the select that he sport a 16-father handlespect with a decent channes on his order to the selection in the sport of the selection in the Money of the father of the selection in the Money of the father than the sport of the selection in the Money of the father when the selection in the Money of the father than the selection in the Money of the father than the selection in the Money of the father than the selection in the Money of the father than the selection in the Money of the selection in the selection in the Money of the selection in the selection in the Money of the selection in the selection in the Money of the selection in the sele

3.40 GREYHOUND HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,741 00/2110- 200AC (1.77) (CD) (Bitan Braucocci) P Makin 5 9 10 _____ 545140' HAROLDON (523) (D) (Lamb Brook Associates) B Paling 8 9 8... 21641-4 SOVIET BRIDE (BS) (D) (I F MBs) S Dow 5 9 8 A 053000 DANESOLD (154) (D) (Circular Debristors Ltd) M Channon 5 9 7 7 662-000 OBELOS (USA) (129 (D) (Giberts Animal Feed Products Ltd) Miss S Willon 6 9 6.

BETTING: 5-2 Danagold, 4-1 Zidec, 9-2 Soviet Bride, 6-1 Sha Obeloe, Scenicris, 14-1 Haroldon, Indian Nector 1996: Ocean Park 5-8 13 A Clark 4-1 (Loby Harries) 13 nm

063120 SHALATEBIO (183) (D) IS Palmen B R Milman 991

PORM GUIDE

DANESCLD showed useful form in 1995, writing four times, but consequently found life tough last season. Still, he did shape as if retaining plenty of ability, including when runing well, brough without making the frame, in a couple of tough euturna handicaps, and he has since done Mick Channon proud over huntles, winning at Windsor and running third. and he is becoming more sensibly handcapped again. He is, for example, alto better for the two lengths and a haif by which Obelos (then with Julie Cacili best him when they were second and third in a Haydock handcap last September. Soviet Bridse can go well if the ground retains some bounce, but her consistency makes the handcapper are never, while course and distance winner Zideo showed his ability to carry weight when winning an anateur's handcap under 12st last May. Front-runners often go well when fersh so Shalateur's handcap under 12st last May. Front-runners often go well when fersh so Shalateur's handcap under 12st last May. Front-runners often go well when fersh so Shalateur's handcap under 12st last May. Front-runners often go well when fersh so Shalateur's handcap under 12st last May. How a fest-run race will help Hill Forms Dencer, who is best on the all-weather but has two larf wins to her name and a good claimer on

4	1.10	GADSBY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,500 added 3YO 7f Penalty Value £5,775
1		MALADERIE (209) (R M Brevau) M Channon 9 7
2	54413-	ZANNA (155) (D) (Prince A A Fassil) J Dunkop 9 1
3		TYCOON GREL (170) (F.C. T. Wilson) B Meenan 9 12
4	052-	DOC RYAN'S (140) (P J Flavn) M Ryan 8 9
5	3330	BARNTONE (152) (Lord Sweything) / W Visits 8 9
6	0544	KENARRA (213) (G Palmer) B R Milman 8 6
7	424	PLAISIR D'ANOLIR (160) (M Tator) N Callagran B 5Pat Eddlary 4
8		THE WYAMDOTTE PAN (13) (D) (G A Famdon) R Hollinshead 8 4F Lynch (3) 8
9		TRADENS ACES (167) (R P 8 Michaelson) M Bell 7 13
10	030317-	RETURN OF ANN (118) (D) (Sheiki Amin Dahlawi) J Bethell 7 12
22		LAST CHANCE (123) (Carrielot Recing) D Cosgrove 7 12
12	000033-	ALWAYS ALIGHT (136) (M Nelmes-Crocker) K Burke 7 10 F Norton 5

= 12 accurred — 12-2 accurred — 12-2 accurred — 13-2 Baritone, 15-2 The Wyandottis Ion, 10-1 Last Chance, Plaint D'Amour, 11-1 Heladerie, 12-1 Doc Ryan's, Kewarra, 14-1 Trading Aces, 15-1 Aways Alight — 1998: Westman's Weigh 3 8 9 L Detton 5-2 (R Hollinshead) 5-an

1998: Westman's Weigh 3 8 9 L Dettor 5-2 (R Hollinshead) 5 an FORM GUIDE.

Kewin Dadey got to know ZABMA last season, winning a last-ground Redcar nursery over this trip on John Dunlop's filty in September and then storing her to be third in a one-mile nursery at Yammouth a month later. Zama had previously looked unsuited to Epsom when fourth to Cythavoc in a maiden there, but that effort showed her to be going the night way after she was too green to do herself justice in her first two races in fair company. She is the tennative chace for a typocally-tricky three-year-pids handicap in which Tycoon Girl rates as one of the more progressive types. Her October defeat of Pleister D'Amour came at a time when Brian Meetnan's juventies were carrying all before them, but she should go well here with the extra furiong sure to be to her advantage. Pleaser D'Amour, a sister to Dane-hill Denoer, began her cenere by running in Ascot's Blue Seal States and Neville Callaghan will be been to get a win from her. Banttone will like this trip and can improve, while Restum Of Asiae ended last season a high note and could test these with Matt. Herny reducing his burden to 7st 9th, enthough it is flietly that a suffer stamma test will show James Bethell's Sales cott in a better light. Metaderte ran respectably in some good races lest year, including in Listed company as Beden-Baded, so can go well despite top weight.

4	.40	Billesdon selling Stakes (class g) (DIV II) £2,500 added 7f Penalty Value £2,077	
1	00-1530	DAHMAH (USA) (22) (D) (W Cliford) 8 Smart 6 9 12	
2	6-40010	\$RONTABLE (12) (D) (Paul Desn) M Johnston 4 9 12	
3	430520	ASTRAL WORDER (10) (M 5 Sounders) M Sounders 5 9 7	
4	0-	AUCHOLECK MIDGE (125) (B Judge &) D Judge;) L Harrs 4 9 7	
5	100255-	ENDUGIGIONS TURNOL (145) (D) (Broughon & Westwood W Musson 8 9 7	
•		Pat Biday 10	
5		DISPOL PRINCE (W 8 Imsort) G Chings 4 9 7	
7	404600-	IBJRARIZ (150) (T I Goutey) C Smith 59 7	
8	004050	FANCY DESIGN (28) (Ms, V M Hams) P Methel 4 9 2	
9	000000-0	FIERY FOOTSTEPS (75) Pareness Arms Record Outsi C Popham 5 9 2	
10	632-025	ZELAYA (14) (C.) Pennick) G.1 Moore 4 9 2	
21	03046-6	SUMMERVALLE WOOD (26) (The Likely Lods Partnership) P Mooney 3 8 6	
	_		
12	005-	CONTROL FREAK (1889) (E.J.G. Young) A Foster 3 8 1	
		- 12 déciared -	
BETTING: 4-6 Braughters farmel, 3-1 Shostaine, 11-2 Debyes, 11-1 Astral Inveder, 12-1 Control Fresh, Sammerville Wood, 14-1 Zelaya, Dispol Pytoce, 20-1 Fessey Design, Mahartz, 25-1 Others 1000s and Messey tree.			

FORM CLIDE ERROUGHTON'S TURNAOIL had Par Eddery on board when taking a Kempton handicap (7f) under 9st 11th last August and the race went like clockwork. Eddery made full use of his mount's riside draw without getting boxed in and this rates an easier-looking task. Broughton's Turmol ran an even better race in defeat when a close second at Newmarket in October and the second at the second at Newmarket in October and the second at the second at Newmarket in October and the second at the second at Newmarket in October and Newmarket in Octobe

5.10 KEYTHORPE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 added 3YO fillies 7f Penalty Value £3,646 006-0 AQUANTO QUEEN (45) (1 Johnston) R Weaver 8 11 ... DUST DANCER (1881) Plearmonds Study | Durato, 8 11 Pat Editory 4
RESUBERY RAY (1884) (225) (Doseby Park Study | Fandrines 5 11 K Pation 8
REPPY CHIECK, (225) (Also, D. U. Warshungs) | Jenfors 8 11 K Duratey 9
RAY-164 (NB) P Intriduction Mass 5 William 8 11 R Handia (2) 6 5 RAY-MX (Willy P Modelson Mas S Wilson 8 11 R Handle (2) 6
6 PERLETHORIPE (Mas Susamen Fan') M Bell 8 11 M Femon 10
7 5420 PRETTY SHARP (153) NJ J Michello M Sabbage 8 11 T Sprake 2
8 SOUTH CHINA SEA C J Wates! P Cole 9 11 T Quinn 5
9 TABASCO JAZZ (Lord Pormen) B Meetra 8 11 M Tebbett 1
10 WICTORIA BIQUES flats A N Compbel-Herrely M Heaton-Bis 8 11 S Drowne 7
- 10 declared BETTING: 6-4 Duet Dancer, 11-4 South China Sea, 9-2 Tebasco Jazz, 6-1 Heavenly Ray, 10-1 Perlethorpe, 18-1 Pretty Sharp, 14-1 Victoria House, 25-1 others
1996; Inner Circle 3 B 11 J Red 4-1 (P Chapple-Hyarn) 17 ray

abon, could still need a bit of time and experience but site straped well on both juvenil starts, including extent that a Lockangel in the Blue Seal States at Ascot in September and site is likely to make a bold but in this made in with Pat Cadery in the adultic. Sout and gree is mery to make a doubting in this insulant with risk classy in the south. Section, Chica See, a Robellmon fifty representing Cole and Quarth, and Tabasson Azz, by Selse out of Melody Park, could well be above average, while Heavenly Ray shaped well, though unplaced, on her Lingfield debut last August considering she was drifted in the market and jumped the poth over four furious out. Having said that, it wasn't the footiest of acces.

Selection: DUST DANCER

MUSSELBURGH 2.20 Salamanca 2.50 Longcroft 3.20 Johayro 3.50 Kathryn's Pet 4.20 Termon 4.50 Italian Symphony GOING: Goad (Good to Firm in back straight). STALLS: Round course—inside Straight course—far side. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High numbers best for file Im. Right-hand oval extrise with uight turns. Raccocurse is the miles east of Edinburgh on A1. Bus link from Edinburgh station 5m. ADMISSION: Chih 51.2 (unifors 10-27-& students 56): Tattersalls 26 ((APs and unemployed \$4). Accompanied under-10s free. CAR PARK: Free. Sounds Legal & Tajar (1.39). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Abalany (3. 60) has been sent (6. 6) miles by M Channun from Upper Lumbourn. Berksburg Gi La fligh (3.20) & Soldier Core (4.20) sent (6.2 miles by Martyn Meade Insut 2.20 CARLYLE PLACE MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 270 5f CAPTAIN BLISS I: Toyler 8 10... COON FOR YOU S Personal & 10 - 7 declared -BETTIVES; 9-4 Captain Bilse, 11-4 Salamano ing, 10-1 Sunshine Pet, 12-1 Good For You, 14-1 Filey Brigg. 2.50 PINKE HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m 600050 SMAFAR (349) R Hen 699 _____. 400052 THORNTOWN ESTATE (64) M Tochurter 493....

4.50 STONEYHILL MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3YO 1m — 15 declared —

— 15 d 3.20 BRUNTON HALL HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 5f - 6 declared BETTING: 11-10 kelise Symphony, 4-1 Krosno, 5-1 Polarize, 7-1 Manhattan Diamond, 8-1 Champagne On Ice, 10-1 Sheer Button 4 23005 CHEMICAST (19) (20) J.L. Eyre 4 10 0 ______R Lappin 1. B 123000 SHAN AT WHALLEY (159) (CD) R Farey 5 9 11__R Weston (7/2 LINGFIELD HYPERION 2.30 One Off The Rail 3.00 Awesome Power 3.30 Sally Stade 4.00 Enchanting Eve 4.30 East-leigh 5.00 Motet

nea, 3-1 Heavenly Abstone, S-

Affordum regist 7st 10th Title hardkap regist keys case him for the BETTING: 5-2 Sally Stade, 4-1 Princely Sound, 9-2 Mijas, 5-1 Ivory's Grab Hire, Spender, 8-1 Tuscan Dawn, 12-1 Lord Sky ■ Left-hand, sharp course (Equatrack surface).
■ Course is south-east of town on ECCSL Langued station (served by London Victoria) adopting course. ADMISSION: Members £13.
Tationalls £9. CAR PARE: Club £0: remainder free.

BLINKERED PIRST TIME: Rosalee Royale (1.20)
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Barbason (4, 41) won -DISTANCE RUNNERS: Tuscan Dawn (3.78) has been 5

3.00 APPLE A DAY SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,875 added 1m 2f

= 8 decizred = SETTING: 7-4 Awesome Power, 9-4 Hatta Sunshine, 3-1 Circus Colours, 7-1 Rehash, 8-1 Duncombe Hall, 20-1 Wicklow Boy, 25-1 others 3.30 ALL'S FAIR HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,325 added 5f

- 4 declared - - 4 de

4.00 BARRY DENNIS BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added 3YO 7f

1 251210 EAGER TO PLEASE (T) ICI Maz Gay Release, 9 7. | Decision (40) PROX DE CLERAMONT (118) G Levis 5 2 A Whelan (3) 1 SETTING: 5-4 Gopt, 3-1 Eager To Pease, 7-2 Encisenting Eve, 4-1 Hover Golf Charger, 12-1 Pro De Clermont

4.30 GIFT HORSE HANDICAP STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 1m

BETTING: 5-2 Barbason, 9-2 Biver Scine, 7-1 Cardings, 8-1 Gadge, invacation, 10-1 Dream Carrier, is Chi Saga, 12-1 others

5.00 ANY PORT MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1m 2f ACC WESTERN SONATA (193) LOST HUROTERON 4 9 5. D Harrison

To arrange a friendly at this time leaves Hoddle and his employers at the Football Association open to a charge of loose thinking

One of the toasts at a football dinner I used to attend annually honours people present who have turned out in the colours of their country. Envy afways came over me. Just once, I would think. Just once.

Deficiency in the limb department precludes the glib assertion that an international cap is something I would have gladly given my right arm for, but when people say this I know exactly what they are going on about. Long before going into the professional game, and learning about its disappointments, playing for Wales was the pinnacle of my

That thought, and it is pretty threadhare now, springs to mind because of the difficulties Glenn Hoddle has encountered in trying to assemble a team for Saturday's rest and rehabilitation. How the

friendly between England and Mexico at Wemblev.

As reported by my colleague Glenn Moore on these pages yesterday, of Hoddle's original 25man squad, five withdrew with injuries and eight others are doubtful. Even allowing for World Cup engagements involving the other home countries, to arrange a friendly at this time, one of intense activity in the Premiership, leaves Hoddle and his employers at the Football Association open to a charge of loose

thinking.
Inevitably, it rekindled the old club versus country argument. putting an unnecessary strain on re-lations between Hoddle and the club managers who feel their players are

players themselves feel about this is quite a different matter.

There are now all sorts of rules to ensure that countries can send out their strongest team for competitive matches, preventing the sort of ridiculous situation that grew up in 1958 when Juventus were at first reluctant to release the great Welsh forward John Charles for the World Cup finals in Sweden. Charles' comparatively meagre total of 38 caps is explained by the pressure imposed on him. "I always wanted to play for Wales," he told me recently, "but Ju-ventus knew that I was always a target for defenders and didn't want me

ments between us. When a victory over Italy in Naples would have qualified Scotland for the 1966 World Cup finals

injured. It caused plenty of argu-



they were denied the services of important players from Liverpool, Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur and went out of the competition. Two of the managers involved, Matt Busby and Bill Shankly,

tween the four home countries and the League programme once caused the Tottenham manager, Bill Nicholson to withdraw Dave Mackay, John White and Bill Brown from the Scotland team to play England at Hampden Park. "I could under-stand Bill's decision," Mackay said, "but it was very disappointing Play-ing for Scotland was very important. to us." A big difference now is the proliferation of international fixtures. No sooner have countries finished with one competition than they are into another. Friendly matches may be important to de-velopment and collective understanding but they aggravate the

Often, they create a dilemma for the players. In some cases, and there is no doubt in my mind about this, they are persuaded to feign injury. When international match fees were rather more important than they are today, clubs bribed their men with compensation.

Not so long ago, just a couple of years in fact, I found myself in the company of two players who had been pulled out of an international match in Eastern Europe which, you can be sure, they would not have visited with any great enthusiasm. Apart from anything else, there would not have been much to unload their loot on. At some stage of proceedings one turned to the other; smiled, raised his glass and said: "Just think, we could have been stuck out there tonight, getting kicked and running our bollocks off.

Cheers! The remark did not strike me as

funny or in any way endearing. The record book I turned to later suggested better values. One of Arsenal's most brilliant players, Alex James, hurned out only five times for Scotland. Another of their Scotlish heroes, Jimmy Logie, gained just one

al matches now that most of the players you come across in the Premiership seem to have turned out internationally in some form or another. Maybe I am wrong about this, but it does seem that the experience has been cheapened, that it no longer means a great deal unless there is a big prize in the distance. They should count them-

Mijnders

masterminds

Oxford revival

Hugh Matheson meets the Dutch

coach planning to win the Boat Race

The Dark Blue coach, Rene main difference is that before

Mijnders, is a little haffled that,

as coach of the Dutch crew which won the 1996 Olympic ti-

the his same rippled little beyond the banks of the Amstel canal,

where his crew had lived and

trained and that now he is feted

throughout England and has

two or three television units fol-

lowing each of his training ses-

Mijnders, 40, had been on the

scene in the Netherlands for

some years before he struck

gold with the eight and the grad-ual build up, while his crew twice

came second in the World

Championships, disguised his impact, but here it is apparent

Challenged on whether any of his Oxford crew could have

taken a place in the Dutch

Olympic eight he says, "This

for all to see.

crew would per-haps have not

really to threat-

en the Datch

year. Otherwise

they are of the

same stan-dard." That is a

notable compli-

ment to the way

his coaching has

been accepted

and understood

in Oxford. In

Year of goodbyes

Transfer-deadline day, an institution which often appears to have been preserved to allow John Burridge and Clive Allen to see more of the country, is upon us. The passing of the 5pm cut-off point may only briefly stop the speculation, but for many managers it means the rest of the season becomes

a matter of make do or die. In the 12 months since the faxes confirming changes in registration spluttered to a halt, well over £200m has been lavished on players by Pre-miership and Football League clubs. A staggering £118m was spent in the summer, a record close-season total that was swollen by Newcastle's £15m swoop for Alan Shearer.

While the size of the cheque to Blackburn artificially distorts the figures, the continuing trend towards a concentration of wealth in the Premiership is evident. During the summer of 1989, for example, clubs from the old First Division accounted for only 55 per cent of the £29m that changed hands. In the build-up to the current season they splashed £98m. nearly 85 per cent of the total

As the campaign has profected by the Bosman ruling. Only a handful of clubs have exploited the freedom it continentals.

Of them, Norway's Biorn Tore Kvarme could claim to be the most striking success. For nothing more than a signing-on fec. Liverpool acquired an excellent young defender who had Champions' League experience with Rosenborg a team in transition - from dire trondheim and would have to dour - and one suspects commanded £2.5m on the

open market. The FA Cup offers another post-Bosman signing, Gianluca Vialli, the chance to redeem

When David May was omitted from the original England

squad for Saturday's Wembley

friendly with Mexico, he could

have been forgiven for won-

dering if he would ever get in.

May was in the best form of his

career and there were more cen-

tre-halves injured or doubtful

than even George Gruham

The example of Steve Bruce.

May's predecessor in the Man-

chester United team, loomed.

Bruce was one of the key figures in United's 1990s revival but he

came no closer to England

recognition than a belated ad-

mission by Bobby Robson that

he should have capped him

and one by Graham Taylor that

he was unlucky not to have won-

as the injury toll rose. "A lot of

20 to 30 caps.

could find house room for.

35 51: 7.1 En 7.1

Phil Shaw looks at English football's bargain signings and costly mistakes -12 months and £200m on from last year's transfer-deadline day

but Gianfranco Zola's £4.5m with Sasa Curcic, hugely talmove from Parma already

In my view Zola has three rivals for the distinction of be-

Pound for pound, though, the title must go to Kvarme's equally unheralded compatriot, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, who has emerged as if from nowhere to become Manchester United's top scorer. The boyish striker earned FC Molde all of £1.5m - or a 10th of what Newcastie shelled out for Shearer - and has 13 goals to show for his 21 League

Lee Sharpe, on whom

The Czech, in turn, has been

ented but a moaning misfit since defecting from Bolton to Aston Villa for £4m; or Ramon Vega, the Swiss stopper who set Spurs back £3.75m only to spend much of the time suspended or injured; and Romania's Florin Raducioiu, on whom West Ham swallowed an £800,000 loss when he retreated to Espanyol four months after arriving for £2.4m.

Yet the worst buy of 1996-97 - I refuse to say arguably -has been an Englishman. Ac-claimed as the new Peter Beardsley or the next Teddy Sheringham, Nick Barmby's form was already fading at Middlesbrough and has dipped disastrously since Joe Royle paid £5.75m to make him Everton's most expensive play-

Royle did offload Andrei Kanchelskis to Italy for a profit of £3.5m. but Barmby's lack of impact has led some Evertonians to view the Ukrainian's favourably.

As for Shearer, he hardly let Newcastle down before succumbing to injury. The coup was, however, supposed to turn last year's near miss into a championship. Judged on that criterion. the expenditure has vet to be justified.

By the same logic, the mind-boggling £7m Middlesbrough paid for Fabrizio Ravanelli will not seem like a snip should the "White Feather" score the winner in one or more final.

It has not been all multi-million pound deals. Martin O'Neill has bought half a team for less than the Barmby fee and led Leicester to a Wemb-

Dark days are over as May shines

The Manchester

United defender is

delighted with his

England call, he tells **Glenn Moore**

regretted the move. I never

doubted my ability, but it was

a difficult period. I was not hap-

py with my form and I felt a bit

Blackburn, which is not as big

of water but it was a learning ex-

perience. It showed to myself

what sort of character I was and

what type of friends I have got,

You get to know your real friends when things are going

werawed. I'd come from

"At right-back I was a fish out



respectability. Coventry acquired Darren Huckerby from Newcastle for a giveaway £1 m and could probably quadruple their money today.

At the opposite end of the age scale. John Sheridan and John Hendrie cost Bolton and

type of club it is, everybody rallies around you.

I'm enjoying it more than ever.

I prefer centre-back, I've played

were indications of the player

he could be. The turning point

was in late November 1994.

Three days after being substi-

tuted during United's igno-minious defeat in Gothenburg

- after having a nightmare at

right-back - May replaced the

suspended Bruce at centre-

back at Highbury. In a goalless

draw he was solid and accom-

plished: a point had been made.

ther chances were rare but, by

the end of last season, May was

in the team, scoring the open-

ing goal in the championship de-

nouement at Middlesbrough,

and keeping his place for the FA

Cup final. This year United's

With Bruce outstanding fur-

Even in the dark days there

there all my career.

"Now I'm back at centre-half

Barnsley a mere £180,000 and accumulate. Wigan also set a £250,000 respectively. Each club record for a striker last has played a massive part in his club's push for Premiership

status. Meanwhile, one Third Division club have shown Newcastle how to speculate in order to and promotion beckons."

brought the best out of him. The

Porto tie - when he continued

his knack of scoring key goals

in the first leg, and then made

that tackle on Jardel in the

second - brought him to

prominence, but he had been

"It's a different game in Eu-

rope, I feel comfortable in it. It's

tient, there's a lot more build up,

but when the ball gets in the box

it is quick. You have to be

aware of everything around

"Europe has brought the best out of him." Glenn Hod-

dle, the England coach, said. "It

always was the stepping stone for international football and it's

brought him on no end. He's

also enjoyed being at an

The fans have noticed his im-

provement. The chant "David

May. Superstar: He's won more

exceptional club."

European challenge has medals than Shea-rer" has

a lot slower. You have to be pa-

playing well for some time.

summer, venturing £150,000 on . Doncaster's Graeme Jones.



David May: 'You get to know your real friends when things are going badly'

but it's all a bit of banter." he

So far the medal count is 4-1

The Yorkshireman now leads Fowler, Ravanelli and the rest with a Sheareresque 31 goals, being comparatively young and impressionable, that is perhaps not surprising.

become the new sound of Old Trafford. It has also been heard a few times on the team bus. May, though not one to seek the spotlight, is clearly tickled by this recognition. "It puts a smile on my face. The team take the mick

in May's favour, by the end of this season he could be even

It is further down with, the international Roberto Blanda at No 5 and the Croat born, but Imperial College trained, Linka Grubor at No 6, and the American Jordan Irving, at No 7, that his ability to lead the athlete to develop a skill that brings them all together into one smooth flowing unit is demonstrated. "For me it was a new expe-

rience. But you know what it is you have to do and, as it goes. along, you change how you do it. Perhaps next year we will adapt some things. But the

cap. Just 16 caps for Dixie Dean, who scored 60 goals for Everton in

one season. There are so many internation-

it seemed as though Oxford

worked on development of

skills and physical development

almost separately, and now the

technical and strength devel-

opment are integrated." To this

end he has abandoned the

hours spent on weights in the gym and devotes the time to

quality training in the Boat.

The athletes lap it up. They have all done headbanging work

in other crews and some could

not believe that their results

might improve when outings

were sometimes cut short if the

quality was not high enough. But

when they are tested on the un-

forgiving ergometer, the rowing

machine which measures their

power in every possible cali-

bration, they achieve personal

bests beyond what they previ-

He pays the

closest attention to detail

that others

rarely notice.

watch the stern

of the pale yel-

low Empacher

boat that Ox-

ford are using, it runs forward a

the time, with

the barest hint

of a check when

all eight of the

oarsmen catch

the water with

the blades and

coiled-up power

ously thought possible.

and bad buys

looks better business than Vialli's "free" from Juventus.

ing the season's outstanding buy. One is Nigel Martyn, who has forced his way back into contention for the England keeper's jersey since Leeds prised him from Crystal Palace for £2.25m. Another must be Patrik Vieira, a fringe player at Milan who has become a key figure at Arsenal after a £3.5m

remained surprisingly unaf- another of Alex Ferguson's foreign captures. Jordi Cruyff (£1.4m from Barcelona), ranks among the less judicious transferred on out-of-contract Con- actions. And the politest that can be said of Karel Poborsky (£3.5m from Slavia Prague) is that the jury is still out.

Howard Wilkinson gambled a Tomas Brolin-sized £4.5m of Leeds' money, has yet to prove his worth. To be fair, he joined many Old Trafford patrons would take him back in exchange for Cruyff and Pobor-

a patchy sojourn at Chelsea. a storming success compared fley final and Premiership

people have been saying it is about time I was called up."

May said at England's Bisham

Abbey training camp yesterday.

"I was just concentrating on do-

ing well for Manchester Unit-

ed. I knew if I did that the

was never called up for England

given what he has done for

United, It was unfortunate for

waiting for his chance. It took

him two years to dislodge Bruce

in the United team after sign-

ing from Blackburn in the sum-

mer of 1994. In that time he saw

his old team win the Premier-

ship and himself pilloried for a

series of poor performances

May, however, is used to

"It is remarkable that Brucie

chance would come.

Norway's Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has emerged as the bargain of the season at Old

Photograph: Empics

the Netherlands he was chief coach for Mijnders: Atlanta winner 10 years and his Photograph: David Ashdown apply

eight were decoiled-up p
veloped over nearly four years. to lever the hull forward. in Oxford he had to telescope Mijnders has worked on them the whole thing in six months.

He has five British oarsmen to place the blade almost delicately in the water and increase in the crew, who are led from the power in sympathy for the the stroke seat by the most exway the boat is running, and he perienced of them, Tim Foster. has adjusted the mechanics of He has put the other four, two the boat and its gearing to de-19-year-olds, and two of 20, in ceive even experienced watchers on how fast the boat is going. the bows where they are rowing with a natural, easy flow that is the Miinders trademark. But,

He creates a happy atmosphere but keeps himself a little separate when tricky selection decisions have to be taken - as this year when he told the president, Ed Bellamy, that he would not make the crew.

When he is asked why someone would drop from winning in the Olympics to the parochial challenge of two foreign universities, he does not cite the usual glamour and traditions of the race but simply says: "They are comparable. You work with a team which starts as a group of athletes and you plan to work together to one goal. That one took four years, in this case we only have six months. That makes it interesting."

hadly for you and my friends and my family stood by me. when played out of position at May is still to actually play for England - but the 26-year-old Already softly spoken, May's "My family said 'don't worhas at least made the squad, afvoice dropped and his body lanry, you'll pull through it'. The guage grew detensive as he reter being called up on Sunday other players were brilliant and

Wales will be able to unleash a - Ireland game and he thought I fully-fit Ryan Giggs against Belgium in the World Cup qualifying match on Saturday because of the rest Alex Ferguson gave him.

The Manchester United winger came in for severe criticism from some Wales supporters when he pulled out of last month's friendly against the Republic of Ireland, but Giggs insisted yesterday that he owes his current form and fitness to the fortnight's break he had either side of the Irish game.

"It's tough for Alex Ferguson recause he's got to look after his 'avers." said Giggs. "I had a litneeded a rest. It meant I had a full two weeks to recover from it and it did me good. The criticism I got for missing the game hurt, because, as I've said many

times. Hove playing for Wales. The Welsh manager, Bobby Gould, is hoping Mark Hughes will overcome a groin strain and join Giggs in the line-up against the Belgians in a game that both sides badly need to win to boost their hopes of claiming second place behind the likely group winners, the Netherlands.

Hughes had a couple of days' treatment at Stamford Bridge before joining up with Wales and niggling hamstring before the is ready to test the injury in train-

Giggs answers his Welsh critics ing today. If Hughes is ruled out, Gould will perm two strikers from Dean Saunders, John Hartson and Nathan Blake.

Scotland have granted John Spencer permission to play for Queen's Park Rangers on Saturday. The manager, Craig Brown, announced the decision yesterday despite the fact he is expecting the Rangers pair, Ian Ferguson and Alan McLaren, to withdraw from the squad which faces Estonia at Kilmarnock at the weekend and Austria at Celtic Park next Wednesday, "It is not a dangerous precedent, it simply shows clubs that we are not inflexible." Brown said.

The 16-year association between coming to an end after the Parkhead captain yesterday revealed he has not been made a contract offer with his current

deal due to expire this summer. "I wouldn't say there is a rift but I have been informed that no contract will be offered between now and the end of the season," McStay said. Asked if the situation with Celtic could be resolved. McStay said: "All I can say is what I was told yesterday I can't go any further than that - there's no contract and that is it realiv.

club he loves, McStay added: of the development of the team most film.

McStay poised to leave Celtic "That is something I have to Paul McStay and Celtic could be contemplate. If I don't leave, I'll be on month to month deals. I've been told there is no offer so I have to weigh up my options and review my future. I've nothing

at all in the pipeline." Celtic's chairman, Fergus McCann, refused to discuss the future of McStay, other than to comment that he had expected discussions to "remain confidential". McCann also insisted that any offer of a new contract would not be made to the manager, Tommy Burns, until the summer. "The position of Tommy Burns will be discussed

and the club at the end of the season," McCann said, Meanwhile Celtic's top scorer this season, Jorge Cadete, was told by McCanin that he will only see an increase in his wages if he

agreed a longer contract. The Rangers left-back, David Robertson, has been offered a three-year deal by the Serie A team, Perugia. They are one of a number of Italian clubs, including Atalanta and Internazionale, interested in the defender, who will be out of contract this summer. Rangers. however, are still negotiating to On the prospect of leaving the along with the entire direction from Aberdeen in 1991 for alkeep the player who was signed

Lola out for season

Motor racing

The Lola Grand Prix team have: pulled out of Formula One after just one race. A team spokesman confirmed yesterday the Lola team's two cars will not compete in Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix or any of the other.

remaining 16 races this season. "We got a telephone call yesterday from the factory telling us we were pulling out. Ray Boulter, the team manager, said in São Paulo yesterday afternoon. "We were, well, amazed: It is all the more surprising because the whole team ... tinguished names in the sport. is already here. We had come

ounselves for this event. Everything is set up and ready to go."
Lofa, based at Humingdon, had 28 mechanics and engineers

Vincenzo Sospiri, preparing for qualifying, which starts tomorrow at the Interlagos circuit.

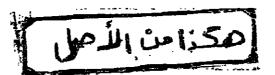
The freight continues on to Argentina, so the future remains open," Boulter added, "But we will all be getting back to England as soon as we can." A spokesman for the team in

England said: "I can confirm that Lola have pulled out of the Brazilian Grand Prix and will not be entering other races in 1997. Beyond that, we are a racing car company and we have identified Formula One as an area we should be involved in." Lols are one of the most dis-

having won championships at alout especially early to prepare most every level and dominated the IndyCar series. Grand prix racing is the one Formula they have never cracked. They have had one pole position - in and two drivers, the Brazilian 1967 - and just 40 points to Ricardo Rosset and the Italian show for 140 grands prix

إ هكذا من الأصل

called those times. "I never so was the manager. That's the



sport

Confident Montgomerie out to raise his game

reports from Ponte Vedra Beach.

There is one problem with call-ing the US Players' Championship the "fifth major". It has a strong course albeit soggy one at Sawgrass after two inches of rain, a strong field, with all the top 50 players in the world present, and the richest official

prize in golf. But with the first maweeks away at Augusta, it is im-possible to ignore the bint that this week is only a dress rehearsal.

Tiger Woods, the new kid on the block, said as much. "This is a perfect way to prepare for the Masters, a good warm-up tournament before Augusta. he said. Colin Montgomerie, one of eight Europeans in the field, takes the opposite tack having come close to claiming

the \$630,000 (£393,000) first prize that went to Fred Couples

"I do not know why this is not a major championship," Mont-gomerie, who has finished ninth, 14th and second in the last three years, said. "It is a major tournament and the next best tournament you want to win after the majors. It is nice to know I have been in a posi-

well and confident of putting the ball on the fairway. I have not been worse than Jith in six tournaments this year so, although I have not won, it has been consistent." He has been in the upper reaches of the leaderboard on each of the last three weeks on the US tour and thinks he has corrected the fault which led to him finishing with three bogeys in a row last week at Bay

His long irons, apparently,

hours making them more upright. The European No 1, who dispensed with the services of his long-time coach Bill Ferguson, has been followed here in practice for the first time by Denis Pugh. The former David Leadbetter man obviously had the desired effect as Monty took \$100 off Phil Mickelson. With his victory at Bay Hill on

were too flat by one and a half degrees and the technicians in came the fourth youngest US ter Horton Smith, Jack Nicklaus and Gene Sarazen. Woods, 21, who needs seven more wins in the next four months to beat Smith to the mark, is making his first appearance but won the first of his three US Amateur titles here in 1994. The soft conditions may mean a stampede of low scoring but probably helped in the burying of a time capsule of

Included were Woods' (can-

celled) cheque from the '9n Skins Game which was donated to the National Minority Golf Foundation, Greg Norman's first Akubra hat and the Decisions on the Rules of Golf 1997, the latter being the contribution of the Royal & Ancient. The capsule will be dug up in 2047, when Woods should still

Wigan fix fee for **Smith**

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Wigan will today unveil their replacement for Shaun Edwards. after agreeing a £150,000 fee with Castleford for the Great Britain tour scrum-half, Tony

Smith, aged 26 and twice capped in Tests as a substitute. has been a Wigan target since asking for a transfer before the start of the season. Their coach Eric Hughes, sees him as the ideal man to take the place of Edwards, who is expected to oin the London Broncos when the two clubs can agree a deal.

Wigan, who have also been linked with the Widnes prop. Lee Hansen, might make a second signing announcement today as Hughes puts the money from the sale of Central Park to work, rebuilding his side.

Smith could come into contention for tomorrow's Super for his Wigan career.

Hughes has a stronger square

their second-rower, Chris Morley. He was found guilty on ideo evidence vesterday of a Cup semi-final win over Salford.

All Arms Park

The stadium is undergoing a

Not only will the turf and

Groupo (Spain) defend the tithe against the challenge of Oldham and Sheffield, plus CS Meaux and Hyeres, from

deville on 19 April.

the silver medal at the Para-

lympics in Atlanta last summer

They both won National Con-

semi-finals at the weekend and

meet in the final at Stoke Man-

After two days of classifica-

tion, the demanding schedule of

games is played on Saturday and

Sunday 3 and 4 May, Fundosa

Cup steels rivals

France, RBV Salzburg (Austria). St Lucia Sport (Italy) and SC Antilope (Netherlands). SECULE OF THE SHARE SHATES FOR THE Tuesday's results

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Squash
Tanya Bailey, of Uncoinshire, defeated Belgan's Nim Hannes 9-5, 9-1, 9-4, to win the European Under-19 Junior Championship in Helsinki, in the boys' event, Adam Stevenson, the England No 2, defeated Switzerland's Marco Eggenberger in the semi-ficials before losing 7-9, 9-4, 9-0, 9-6, in the final to Finland's Oli Tuorninen.
EQUITABLE LIFE SUPER SERIES Finals Whitheld!: Harrow group: 5 Parke (English C. Weller, 19-6, 9-19-8, P. Les (Super Series B. Marun (Aus) 6-9-9-4, 7-9-10-6-9.

C. PALACE

COVENTRY DERBY COUNTY EVERTON

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KING HASSAN II MEN'S OPEN (Casabia

League fixture against St Helens, although the Easter Monday fixture at Warrington might be a more likely starting point

to select from than he might have anticipated, with neither Gary Connolly nor Jason Robinson showing any reaction from their comeback at Castleford on Sunday and Mick Cassidy likely to recover from groin strain. Saints will be able to field

but escaped without a ban.

under hammer

Welsh rugby fans with an abiding fondness for Cardiff Arms Park will have the chance to bid stock and barrel. For the Weish Rugby Union is putting everything up for sale, including the turf, the floodlights, the score-board and the goalposts. The auction will take place on

Sunday, 27 April and entry for two people can be obtained for the price of the £8 catalogue.

Richard Jasinski, secretary of Great Britain team which won | give our supporters the opporlunity to acquire pieces of memorabilia from the National Studium and we felt an auction would be appropriate.

> £108m re-development in preparation for the 1999 World Cup, with the last big game, the Swalee Cup final on 26 April. the day before the auction.

20,000 seats be up for grabs but also fixtures and fittings from the changing rooms and entertainment suites, including the dance floor, bars, carpets and catering equipment

INTERLINA EXPRESS MIDIAND ALLIANCE: Boo mare 5: Met dek, I. Slovarth 1, motikey Athlete (

JEWSON EASTERN LEACUE Promier Division: Fa-

each 1 Heistead 2. Neumaries 3 Cocto (0) Technel 10 meth 1, Woldon 1 Gleen command 4, MORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Division: Biscopia Rowers 1 Books 1; Busham 7; 2 Holder (no Bays Of Chandratan 1 vournal Chi 1 George Hart first 1 America Chi 0 maga the 3 Neumaries (mit 1 front 1 America Chi 0 maga the 3 Neumaries (mit 2 front 1 Routene 1) Mossiles 1 monthlers Doubling of States (mit 1 footbed 3 Mossiles 1 monthlers Doubling of Mossiles 1 monthlers Doubling of Mossiles 1 front 1 footbed 3 Mossiles 1 front Mossiles (mit 1 footbed 3 Mossiles 1 front Mossiles Chi 1 footbed 1 footbed 1 footbed 1 front Mossiles Chi 1 footbed 1 front Mossiles Country 1 front Mossiles Country 1 front Mossiles (mit 1 footbed 1 f

Henman to miss **Davis Cup tie**

JOHN ROBERTS reports from Key Biscayne

Tim Henman's prospects of a lively campaign on the road to Wimbledon have been disrupted. The British No 1 is unlikely to play again before the French Open, which starts on 26 May, after undergoing surgery

to his right elbow in London. The injury, which flared up again last Saturday during Henman's defeat by Julian Alonso, a Spanish qualifier, in his open-ing match at the Lipton Champ ionships here, jeopardises Britain's chances of qualifying for a play-off for the World Group

of the Davis Cup in September. It is hoped that Greg Rusedski, Britain's No 2, will recover from a wrist injury in time for next week's Euro/African Zone tie against Zimbabwe at Crystal Palace. In Henman's absence, Jamie Delgado has been added to the British squad, which also includes Rusedski, Andrew Richardson, Mark Petchey and Neil Broad, the doubles specialist. The captain, David Lloyd, is not required to announce his final selection until an hour before the draw

of bone) removed from Henman's elbow by arthroscopic surgery at St John and St Elizabeth Hospital, St John's Wood, on Tuesday night. "The opera-tion was a complete success and Henman is expected to start practising again in ap-proximately six weeks time in preparation for the French Open." said Dr Michael Turn-

er, chief adviser to the Lawn

Tennis Association. Henman, who has been troubled by the elbow periodically since taking a tumble as an 11year-old, said, "After consulta-tion with British doctors, who confirmed the opinion of doc-tors in America that an operation was needed, I decided to go ahead with it straight away. Obviously I am very disappointed to be missing next week's Davis Cup tie, but I still feel that are

in a strong position to win." Rusedski, fitness permitting, will relish an opportunity to shoulder the bulk of responsibility for Briton's fortunes, as he did when a virus ruled Henman out of the tie against Slovenia at Newcastle last May. Byron Black, Zimbabwe's leading player, has said that his team fear Rusedski's powerful serve more than Henman's all-round game.

tember, 1994, when his leg was broken during a match against his compatriot Chris Wilkinson.

Henman returned and began a run of success that enabled him to become the first Briton to reach the Wimbledon men's singles quarter-finals since Roger Taylor in 1973 and to win the doubles silver medal with Neil Broad at the Atlanta Olympic Games.

Henman's world ranking has been as high as No 14, and last week here he was voted the ATP Tour's Most Improved Player Award for 1996. So far this year he has competed in three finals, winning his first ATP Tour title in Sydney in January.

Pete Sampras, the world No 1, predicts a great future for Henman. "He is the one guy that I feel is going to be a threat, I really do, not only for me, but for all the guys," Sampras said here. "I think Henman has got a game that will be consistent

Should Sampras fail to make an impression during the the opening week of the French Open, it is possible that he will go to Surbiton for the Surrey Grass Court Championships and then play the Queen's Club ext Thursday. Henman's last major injury event before completing his "Loose bodies" (small pieces occurred in Singapore in Sep-



Vodafone agree broad deal until 2001

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On the day the English Cricket Board announced that Vodafone, the mobile phone company, is to become the sport's largest-ever sponsor, the England vice-captain said some strong words on the state

of the domestic game. The £13m deal, which will help to fund the English game between now and the end of the Ashes in 2001, includes a wide range of cricketing competitions. Vodafone will sponsor the England team for all home and away Test matches, one-day

Tommi Makinen, the world

champion, yesterday won the

Portuguese Rally to take the lead

in the drivers' championship. Makinen, in a Mitsubishi, fin-

many, was third in a Ford.

the World Championship with

18 points, followed by Colin

McRae on 13 and Spain's Car-

los Sainz on 12. Makinen's vic-

tory for Mitsubishi, his first of

the season, brought an end to

this winter.

They will also sponsor the England A team at home and away, the England women's team for five years, and Vodafone Challenge matches between the counties and overseas touring sides for four years from 1998.

Nasser Hussain, the England vice-captain on the winter tour to Zimbabwe and New Zealand, vesterday called for English cricket to get rid of its "dead wood" in order to improve standards. It has long been argued that county cricket is not com-

during the 18th stage following

a spirited drive on the second

day, during which he set the

fastest time on every stage.

McRae, in a Subaru, was dom-

inant until the sixth stage when

That left the battle for the lead

between the Swede, Kenneth

remainder of the first day. The

Swede pulled ahead to end the

first leg 14 seconds clear. On the

second day Makinen closed the

gap, before taking the lead on the 18th stage. He then pulled clear

Makinen takes the honours

Makinen, in a Mitsubishi, fin-ished tmin 5sec clear of the Bel-after Sainz had retired with

gian. Freddy Loix, driving a gearbox problems in his Ford. That left the battle for the lead

The Finnish driver now leads Eriksson, and Makinen for the

internationals and overseas petitive enough to produce topgames on official tours starting class players who can compete at international level. Hussain yesterday backed up that statement as he prepared for the start of the new season.

Hussain, one of the successes of the winter tour, said: "I think the county scene is not far away from what we need. But I think there is quite a bit of mediocrity and people hanging on iust because it's a job for them, and county cricket is not as élitist as some people would like.

"There's too much cricket, that's for sure, and a lot of boring, non-effective cricket from

have is people saying that we in his left hand while batting in | Basketball cause there are some good cricketers out there. "If you look at the A and

Under-19 teams, they've always been successful and the key is getting these people through the ranks and into first teams as quickly as possible. Rather than getting in the sides at 21 or 22, they should be in at 18, so counties can get rid of some of the dead wood."

Nick Knight, the England opening batsman, has declared himself fit to face Australia in the Ashes series this summer. July onwards. But what I won't Knight, 26, cracked a knuckle years of service.

> Andre Rison, the Green Bay Packers' wide receiver who scored the first touchdown in the Super Bowl XXXI vic-tory over New England Patnots, has had

Sagmilitudi LEADNA world Singles RANKINGS: Merc 1 Dong Jong (Chi 341.06pts; 2 P-E Hover-Larsen (Den) 294, 341, 9 Sun Jun (Chi 275,09; 4 Fung Permadi (Tar) 266,97; 5 John Supranto undon; 265,69; 6 T Stuer-Lundsen (Den) 265,69; 7 Ewe Hock (Ing (Malay) 265,55; 8 Rashd Side (Malay) 269,79; 8 Park Sung woo (Si Non 258,00; 10 Indra Weens (Indon) 241,65.

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don't have good cricketers - be- the fourth one-day international against New Zealand in Auckland three weeks ago.

Speaking yesterday at the Vodafone launch, Knight said: "I might miss the first week or two of the season, but I hope to be all right to play against Australia. The finger still looks a bit unpleasant but it feels fine." Alan Wells, the former Sus-

sex captain, is to be given an invitation to become a vice-president at Hove three months after leaving the county to join Kent. The honour is in recognition of Wells's 18

RICHARD TAYLOR

Sheffield Steelers and Oldham Owls, the two leading clubs in British wheelchair basketball. take their intense domestic rivalry on to the international stage in May when Ponds Forge stages the European Champi-

ons Cup. The Steelers, who qualify as hosts, and domestic champions Oldham line up against the Continent's top six clubs after a series of qualifying rounds

Oldham and Sheffield sup-

over recent months.

the Bridge St

Rugby League David Stephenson, the Oldham hooker, makes his return tonight in the Al-liance fixture against Salford, after

Rugby Union Rob Fisher was yesterday voted chair-man of the New Zealand Rugb, Foot-ball Union. Fisher's replacement as deputy is to be John Spicer.

SHOOKET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Tellorifi Final qualifying round T Griffors Wash to A Briton (Fig. 1) and Should the Should to Hose Should the Should th

DELICEM TEAM (World Cup qualifier v Wales, Cardiff, Saturday): De Wilde (Sporing Isson); Deli (Anderleon), De Roover (Lerse), Van Meir Lerse), Sankti (Antwer), Oliveur Forentra), Spellens (Bruges), Van der Eld (Cub Bruges, capt). Van Kerchhoven (Lerse), Lemoine (Mouscron), I. Mpenza (Mouscron).

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Pools dividends

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Calls charged at 50p per minute at all times. IMS Leeds LS1 8LB

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when Eriksson was forced out Subaru's early domination of the 1997 championship. with engine problems on the fi-Makinen took the lead nal stage of the second leg. SNOW REPORT - in association with Thomas Cook Ski Direct

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SPORTING DIGEST American football

Badminton

TODAY'S FIXTURES Football

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PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: League Division: Carteroury v Harne Bay.

Rugby Union COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP Nation Basketbail

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Thames Valley Tigers Leicester Riders (8.0). ice hockey

PREMIER LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS: Slouth :8.15). Other sports

Basketball NBA: indiana 95 Toronto 84; Atlante 96 Por-land 89; Orlando 114 Sacramento 103; Sen Antonio 64 Cevetand 59: Chicago 94 Dellas 92; Houston 112 Mannesota 103; Phoene 117 Milyauther 112; Seatte 126 Golden State 95; LA Cippers 110 Vancouver 104 rov. BOOME: World Board Organization and In-ternational Board Federation Inter-Commercial Igit-well-well-price (Idea (North Spore Magnet): In-state (North Indicer v A McDowell (Rentrus), SNDOKER: Britier Open (Permount Provisions), SQUASH: Super Somes Irrais (Hathold).

Commonwealth Games Wellington has lodged a bid with the New Zealand Olympic Committee to host the Garnes in 2006. Christchurch has also signalled its intention to make a bid.

CTREMET.

ICC TROPHY World Cup qualifying (Ruala Lumpur): Canada 254 for 8 150 overs: Nambia 204 (43.2 overs). Canada won by 60 runs. Scotland 201 for 6 150 overs: Hong 134 (40.4 overs). Scotland won by 87 runs. Ep 131 (40.3 overs): East and Central Aftice 76 (44 overs). Fijl won by 35 runs. Pous New Gurnes 219 for 4 (50 overs): Italy 118 (48 overs). Papua New Gainea won by 201 runs. Israel 88 (31.5 overs): referred 65 to 0 (17.2 overs): Irailant won by 100 runs. 148 for 9 (50 overs): United Arab Emirate 3 147 (in 46.2 overs). Denmark won by one run.

TODAY'S NUMBER 98,000

The number of spectators expected for the rugby union international between Australia and New Zealand at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in July. it will be the biggest RU crowd since 105,000 watched Scotland and Wales in 1975.

Robert Millar is Britain's new full-time road racing coach. In Tour de France history the Scot was the only Briton to win a pruze category, the red polika dot serso of heat dimber and was run heat. price category, the red point out pass persey of best climber, and was our best finisher with fourth overall in 1984. TOUR OF SARDINIA (Cagliari, 182km) Fish stage (it unless started): 1 N Limas 2+ 18mm 36sec: 2 E Leon: 3 h Tom. 4 J Soveral Flus; 8 F Cotoma: 9 F Fingo 10 S Gacomelli all same pme.

Football Wolves, having failed to persuade Tot-tenham to part with Ruel Fox on loan, have offered Reading £100,000 for the winger Michael Gilkes. West Bromwich Albion have told Stoke that their £400,000 offer for defend-er Paul Raven fails £350,000 short of their valuation.

Graham Turner, striving to keep Hereford in the League, has signed his son Mark – who recently had mals with Leeds – on loan from Telford.

Taking the Thames by storm, the 143rd University Boat Race contenders flash past Putney



Appeal failure dismays Middlesbrough

Football

TREVOR HAYLETT

Middlesbrough learned yesterday that they have the manager of the month and the player of the month, but not the legal argument to win the day. A Foot-ball Association appeal board threw out their protest against the three-point penalty imposed after they failed to fulfil a fixture with Blackburn Rovers.

"Deeply disappointed" at the decision to uphold the Premier League's punishment of a ooints sanction and £50,000 fine. Middlesbrough went away to consider whether to take their fight to the High Court, even though such action is frowned upon by Fifa, the game's world governing body, whose stated policy is that clubs should never go to legal war with their own domestic authorities.

Middlesbrough had invested heavily in George Carman QC.

jured or suspended they could not have put out a side at Ewood Park on 21 December. The club faxed that information to the Premier League 24 hours before the match, but did not contact Blackburn.

The three-man board ruled that Boro were quite capable of fielding a team and that the club did not have just cause in cancelling the fixture". The breach of Rule 19 relating to a club's obligation to fulfil its fixtures was, it said, serious.

Victory at the five-hour hearing held at a Heathrow hotel would have lifted Middlesbrough three places to 14th in the Premiership table, four points above the relegation zone. Now, with only seven games remaining, their predicament remains acute.

"Importantly it was accepted that the club acted in good faith club's solicitor, Simon Led-

The game will now be played on 16 April and no restriction will be placed on either Blackburn or Middlesbrough with regard to the players they can select. Some clubs had argued that Middlesbrough should play with the seven first-choice players who were fit at the time.

Confirmation that the punishment would stand came just hours after the Middlesbrough manager. Bryan Robson, heard he had been voted the Premiership's manager of the month and his Brazilian midfielder, Juminho, the player of the month, the first time either award had gone to the Teesside

Robson left vowing that it would not hinder his team's prospects of securing their Pre-miership status for next season.

barrister, who is reported to charge £10,000 a day, to argue that with 23 players either ill, in
and in what it considered to be the club, its witcomes before Monday's draw with 23 players either ill, in
supporters and the League," the have also fought their way to the Coca-Cola Cup final and FA

Cup semi-finals. "When I found out about the award it was very sweet but we are obviously disappointed

FA Carling Premiership

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about the result of the appeal," Robson said.

The board comprised Geoffrey Thompson, chairman of the FA's disciplinary committee, Barry Bright, the committee's vice chairman, and Frank Pattison of the Durham FA. It heard argument from Blackburn that they should be given the game, but decided that was neither practical nor appropriate. It also ordered Middlesbrough to pay the costs of both the Premier

League and the appeal board. It was a rare defeat for Carman, whose grateful clients include the former Liberal leader Jeremy Thorpe, Elton John and the Pakistan cricket captain Imran Khan. "Obviously I'm disappointed and we will have to consider the impact of this decision," Carman said.

The verdict angered Boro fans. "Middlesbrough would have had to throw in six or seven kids and that would not have been fair on supporters

good football," Simon Bolton the Middlesbrough supporters' club secretary, said. 'Neither the fans, nor the players had done anything wrong. A fine would have been sufficient."

There was sympathy and relief from Harry Redknapp, the manager of West Ham, one of Middlesbrough's fellow rele-gation candidates. "I feel sorry for Bryan Robson, but at the same time we are all selfish and, let's be honest, everyone is only interested in their own team.

"Every manager in the bottom seven apart from Bryan will. be saying 'that's a good result'. I'd be a hypocrite and a liar if I said I was disappointed."

Jim Smith supported the board. "I cannot believe that a professional club cannot turn out a team and I think the decision to take away three points was correct," the Derby Counmanager said. "If a team in the Sunday morning league had acted like that, they would have been thrown out."



Dalglish spends £2.5m on Hamilton

Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle United manager, is spending £2.5m on the 20-year-old Bradford City player, Des Hamilton. The right-sided wing back is Dalglish's first major signing for the Tynesiders. Dalglish, who saw off a rival

bid by Middlesbrough, has spent all of the club's current transfer fund on the prospect. Hamilton will be sacrificed by the First Division outfit despite their precarious position in relegation zone as the sum

proved too enticing. However, Hamilton has been out of the Bradford team with an injury for a month but he will be available to play after the weekend and is likely to go straight into Dalglish's side. Hamilton's agent was finalising terms on Tyneside vesterday, but there should be no last-minute problems to block

the deadline-day transfer. Although Hamilton's arrival raises questions over the future of Warren Barton, the versatile former Wimbledon player has also been playing in midfield as the Newcastle squad is depleted by injuries.

Dalglish, who is in Spain playing golf with his team, has also lined-up the signing of the promising Icelandic player Biarni Gudjonsson, the subject of interest from Liverpool and Rangers.

Meanwhile, the Bradford manager, Chris Kamara, is trying to spend his money quick-ly. He is setting up deals for the

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

Swedish midfielder Jan Jansson and the Notts County right-back Chris Wilder.

Manchester City's Steve Lomas has turned down a £2.5m transfer to West Ham and a five year contract worth around £1.5m. The Northern Ireland midfielder rejected the move to Upton Park after talks with the West Ham chief executive. Peter Storey, and flew off instead to join Bryan Hamilton's

World Cup squad. Lomas is prepared to wait un-til his contract at City runs out in 15 months' time, when he can leave on a free transfer. It is the second major move that Lomas has rejected this season. He also turned down a move to Wimbledon at the start of the cam-

paign. His City team-mate, the

FORTHERIGHT TACT

winger Peter Beagrie, is want-ed by promotion-chasing Burnley on loan for the rest of the

Mart Poom, the Estonian goalkeeper, was given another chance to make it in English football when Derby signed him for £500,000 from Flora Tallinn. The 6ft 4in 25-year-old was one of three signings by manager Jim Smith, who also completed the capture of the Costa Rican pair Paulo Wanchope and Mauricio Solis in a ioint £1.2m deal from CS Here-

diano over three years.

Smith signed Poom when he was manager at Portsmouth and is reunited with the giant keeper, who is still studying exonomics at university. Poom made only four League appearances for Portsmouth before he was released but Smith said: "I asked the Scotland goalkeeping coach, Alan Hodkinson, to have a look at him when they played Estonia in Monaco and his advice was to

sign him straight away." Poom, who has won 49 international caps, will make his debut for Derby at Old Trafford

Sunderland have signed the former England goalkeeper Chris Woods until the end of

Boxing

the season. Woods played for Southampton earlier in the campaign but broke a leg after a four-month loan spell, playing only six matches. Sunderland have picked up the registration of the 37-year-old from the US Soccer Federation to provide cover for Lionel

Arsenal have denied they are planning to buy the French international striker Ibrahim Ba from Bordeaux. The French daily sports newspaper l'Equipe claimed the London club was ready to pay 35 million francs (£4m). An Arsenal spokeswoman dismissed the report as

"paper speculation". Gerry Sweeney has declared his interest in succeeding Joe Jordan as manager at Bristol City. After leading the club to a 2-1 win at Crewe on Tuesday night, the 51-year-old caretaker manager said: "If I was offered the job I would be happy to take it on."

Tony Adams, Ian Walker and Gary Neville last night pulled out of the England squad to play Mexico at Wembley on Saturday. The three players are injured and the withdrawals increases pressure on the England coach, Glenn

Portugal's coach felled by irate player

Glenn Hoddle may think he has problems as he prepares for Saturday's international against Mexico - but at least the England coach has not had to suffer the indignity of his Portuguese counterpart, who was felled yesterday by a player angered by his exclusion from the national squad.

Artur Jorge was knocked to the ground by the Sporting Lisbon striker, Ricardo Sa Pinto. Witnesses said that Sa Pinto turned up at the Sporting training ground, where the national team was preparing for Satur-day's World Cup qualifier in Northern Ireland, and de-

manded to speak to the coach. Carlos Moia, a director of Benfica, who was present at the ground, said that Sa Pinto then struck Jorge, knocking him down. Jorge, who appeared unhurt in the attack, said later that the incident would have no effect on the preparation of the team. The exclusion of the volatile Sa Pinto was one of the surprises in the 20-man squad

named by Jorge for the game. No reason was given for the decision to drop the striker, who has played 21 times for Portugal, but press reports have spoken of disciplinary problems.

amateur boxing's ruling body, has also been approached. "I

hope we will come up with a for-

mula to make it work," he said.

"Nipper" Read said: "This in-

troduction of annual scanning

is very important, but still only

sport entirely safe, we must

watch ever increasing costs that

burden boxers, but we must ai-

ways listen to advice on safety

than 75 fighters, added: "For

some of the young boxers who

have just turned professional, it

is hard for them to earn a liv-

ing whilst trying to put all their

efforts into their boxing ca-

help them by contributing to

the scan fund. A sum of £100

will be paid towards every pro-

fessional boxer's MRI scan

from the money I have donat-

"I hope that I will be able to

Warren, who promotes more

"We can never make a risk

a step along the way.

in the ring."

The Board's chairman Len

Royle's double deal

Everton plan to complete the surprise double signing of two sided defender can play at full-Norwegians, Tore Andre Flo back or centre-half but has a bad and Claus Eftevaag in a £3m back. He had to limp out of deal today, writes Alan Nixon. Joe Royle, the manager, agreed an improved offer with SK Brann of Bergen for the pair, and they are expected in Merseyside this morning to settle personal terms.

The arrival of Flo, a striker, will raise questions about Duncan Ferguson's long-term future at Goodison Park, although the Scot is unlikely to be sold before the end of the season. Royle's move for Eftevagg is

back. He had to limp out of Brann's European Cup-Winners' Cup defeat by Liverpool last week when his coach described him as "an old man";,-Fifa, football's world go erning body, confirmed yesterday that it was extending the Bosman ruling on free transfers. The decision means out-ofcontract players from non-European Union countries will have the same freedom of movement granted to their EU counternarts.

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No 3257, Thursday 27 March

ACROSS

Trouble making tricks?

... Better bridge player 24 gets the point (4) Second, second in a

race - just (2.4) 10 Hint from Member voiced in German (7) 11 Marine creature washed up ashore in

Kent? (8) 12 Box lug. clip one (6)13 Rainfall saga ruined

honeymoon venue (7.5) 5 16 Got fired? On the contrary (12)

19 Fundamental origin of 6 Triassic rock (6) 20 Consumers' Association? (8)

22 'D', in exam. stands (7) 23 With it, leader will ap-With it, leader will appear to motivate (6)

Reduced imperial support (4) 25 Talking about Left's targeting (8)

One forward in row's up-ended in game (8) i.e., group embraced by

Make painter re-tint to 15 Curried mince, Pam's cover old gloss (14) Tree structure's good. planted in March with a touch of fertiliser? (3-4) Party forces out in groups (9) Fellow salesman set up

drink (6)

Figure out? (14) Endlessly gloomy depths engulfing English soldier (9)

Indian food (8) It's enough to get one down (7) Sheet of holy writ ab-

sorbed by chap (6) Like the drink? (5)

annual brain scan before they are allowed to fight, the British Boxing Board of Control announced vesterday. warld. The revolutionary scheme designed to improve fighters' safety begins on Monday, and a trust fund has been set up by

All professional boxers in

Britain will have to undergo an

the Board to implement the The MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) scans will be carried out at eight countrywide centres, Belfast, Bristol, Birmingham. Cardiff, Glasgow. London. Manchester and New-

castle, with the results sent to

be analysed at the London Imaging Centre. Promoter Frank Warren, whose financial contribution has helped to set the fund in motion, first suggested the new safety measure following the tragic death of Scottish

bantamweight James Murray after his British title fight with Drew Docherty in October Warren said yesterday: "Box-

Brain scans for boxers

ing is finally looking after their own and, hopefully, this will be followed by the rest of the The Board have asked oth-

er promoters to generate funds, and general secretary John Morris said: "The sport must help itself and get off their backsides. Hopefully, major promoters will stage shows to boost the trust fund."

The scans, which initially cost £500, can now be obtained for £250, and the Board, are willing to loan new professionals £150 towards the total, to be repaid at £50 for each of their first three fights. Morris said that out of 1,000

licensed boxers in Great Britain, 350 are actively engaged, and there is sufficient cash to run the

scheme for a year. Morris added that the ABA.

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